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USSR OFFERS TO REINTRODUCE NUCLEAR MORATORIUM

Korniyenko Cited

LD140836 Moscow TASS in English 0827 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS -- The Soviet leadership believes that no task is more important and urgent today than that of arresting the growth of the military danger and saving mankind from the nuclear threat, Georgiy Korniyenko, first deputy foreign minister of the USSR, said at a press conference here today.

Determined to achieve a cardinal turn for the better in world developments, the Soviet Union has identified the struggle to stop the arms race and prevent it in space and to completely eliminate nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction before the end of this century as the centerpiece of its foreign policy in the years to come.

Both common sense and the findings of prominent experts indicate that complete cessation of nuclear weapon tests may be the most effective and at the same time the simplest way of initiating the process of nuclear arms elimination. The nuclear systems already in the inventories would not be upgraded, and it would become virtually impossible to develop new ones.

Today there exists every objective prerequisite for resolving, in a mutually acceptable way and without diminishing anyone's security, the issue of a total ban on nuclear explosions providing for strict verification of compliance with such a ban. What this requires is only political will.

Guided by a desire to set a good example and give the necessary impetus to nuclear disarmament, the Soviet Union took a bold step last August in declaring a unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions. To do so it had to suspend the implementation of a relevant programme at a certain military and economic cost to itself.

Our moratorium initially declared effective until the end of 1985 was extended twice. This was done against the background of an unceasing and, to put it bluntly, provocative nuclear cannonade at the U.S. test ranges.

Each time the Soviet Union candidly warned that the unilateral moratorium could not last indefinitely, that there was a line beyond which it could not continue. That line is determined by the interests of security of our country and that of our allies.

Unfortunately, the U.S. leadership has not passed the test of responsibility, and in Nevada on April 10 it literally blew up a unique chance to stop the nuclear arms race.

As the statement by the Soviet Government of April 11 emphasizes, the nuclear explosion carried out in the United States "has once again clearly demonstrated that behind the U.S. Administration's words about its commitment to the goal of eliminating nuclear weapons lies, in effect, the intention to continue threatening mankind with the nuclear sword and keep the world trapped by the fear of total annihilation".

In these circumstances the Soviet Government's announcement to the effect that it is henceforth free from its unilateral obligation to refrain from any nuclear explosions have not, we believe, come as a surprise to anyone.

Does this mean that the proponents of the nuclear arms race have had their way and that the door to a non-nuclear world, just beginning to open, has been slammed shut? We are categorically opposed to this kind of defeatist mentality, to forcing a fatalistic view of the future on mankind.

The Soviet Union is prepared to re-introduce the moratorium on all nuclear explosions at any time, given reciprocal willingness on the part of the United States. Once again, it is for Washington to respond.

The U.S. Government still has before it another proposal of ours concerning a prompt start of negotiations on a comprehensive nuclear test ban. The USSR is agreeable to any form of such negotiations -- bilateral, trilateral or multilateral -- as long as that leads to an agreement.

In light of the latest developments, we are strongly convinced that not only does the problem of a nuclear weapon test ban remain on the agenda, but that it takes on an even greater urgency, and the Soviet Union intends to seek its resolution perseveringly.

Akhromeyev Cited

LD141107 Moscow TASS in English 1052 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS -- The U.S. leadership, keen to justify its refusal to end nuclear testing, pleads difficulties with verification, but the verification problem can be resolved successfully, Andranik Petrosyants, chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for the Use of Nuclear Energy, told a news conference at the press center of the Soviet Foreign Ministry today.

Answering questions from attending newsmen, he said seismic stations existing in the USSR, the United States, a number of European countries and elsewhere were being continuously upgraded. International seismic data could also be used for verification purposes.

The Soviet side, Petrosyants said, has received with satisfaction a proposal for verification made in a message from the leaders of six nations. It was also prepared for on-site inspections.

"Of course," he said further, "part of the verification-related issues needs certain specifying. This requires sitting down at the negotiating table but with a clearly defined aim, which means that the United States should declare in good faith that in discussing these issues it stands for a complete prohibition of nuclear tests. Without this no discussion can take place."

Replying to a question about the Soviet Union's position as regards the U.S. military threat to Libya, Georgiy Korniyenko, first deputy foreign minister of the USSR, said:

"The main point is not to allow a U.S. aggression against Libya, or against any other nation for that matter. The Soviet Union, for its part, is doing everything in its power towards this end. The same can be said of the other Warsaw Treaty countries. Our contacts with the United States are marked by a desire to prevent an aggression against Libya.

Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Akhromeyev, chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the USSR and first deputy defense minister of the USSR, said, when asked if the USSR was assisting Libya, that "there are Soviet military specialists there, who are performing purely technical tasks".

In answer to a question of which kind of connection there was between the latest U.S. nuclear blast in Nevada and the U.S. military buildup in the Mediterranean, he said:

"It is the same policy which is aimed at preventing any lowering of world tension which would enable the U.S. Administration to carry on the arms race and achieve military superiority. The nuclear tests, the heightening of tension around Libya, the intrusions into Soviet territorial waters in the Black Sea and the major military exercises stages by the United States of late have all been part of this policy."

A correspondent of the London-based SUNDAY TIMES asked Marshal Akhromeyev about the measures planned by the USSR in conjunction with Washington's intention to press on with its SDI program.

"Unlike the United States," was the reply, "The Soviet Union does not have any plans for 'star wars'. We are not developing a nationwide anti-missile defense. The Soviet Union's position is one for a ban on space strike weapons at any stage of development. This is why we do not conduct nuclear tests to evolve such weapons."

Answering a question from a TASS correspondent who asked about the rationale for Washington's striving, through all manner of ploys, to evade solving the problem of banning nuclear tests, Marshal Akhromeyev said:

"From the military point of view, it is explained by the fact that the United States has not given up its aim of gaining military superiority over the USSR, a superiority of the NATO bloc over the Warsaw Treaty Organization. The evasion of the resolution of the problem of nuclear testing is connected with the U.S. Administration's intention to continue threatening mankind with a nuclear sword."

Saying that the United States was the champion for the number of nuclear blasts it had set off, he added:

"The USSR is not going to catch up with the United States in this respect. But we hope that common sense will eventually triumph. Can one really go on blasting our native planet forever?"

Korniyenko said that Washington's refusal to stop nuclear testing made it even more imperative to bring about an end to such blasts. Likewise, the current U.S. posturing added further urgency to the problem of establishing nuclear-free zones, including one in northern Europe.

The first deputy foreign minister of the USSR said the Soviet Union was prepared to return to the moratorium at any moment but this moratorium could be only mutual, undertaken jointly with the United States, rather than unilateral.

Setting forth the Soviet position on a summit meeting, he quoted a statement by Mikhail Gorbachev in Tolyatti where the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee said that the Soviet side was for another meeting and was not advancing any preconditions for it. But it was essential that this meeting be a step forward, that it bring practical results towards an end to the arms race and that there be a proper atmosphere for such a meeting.

REACTION CONTINUES TO U.S. NUCLEAR BLAST

Soviet Youth Protest

LD112308 Moscow TASS in English 1642 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 11 TASS -- According to the Soviet youth, the U.S. nuclear explosion set off in Nevada on Thursday, was a dangerous, destabilizing step.

This was today underlined at a press conference by the youth delegation who handed over their address to President Reagan, demanding an end to nuclear testing, at the American Embassy in Moscow two days ago.

The Nevada testing, and the reception, far from diplomatic, accorded the Soviet youth delegation by U.S. Embassy staff who did not let the Soviet representatives enter the building to deliver the address, showed that the Reagan administration was not going to give up testing, said a young factory worker, Nikolay Manokhin.

Disregarding the will of millions of people around the world, he said, the United States was continuing the testing with the aim to attain the unattainable -- superiority over the Soviet Union.

"Mankind can survive if it shows enough courage and unity in pressing for an end to nuclear testing," said Svetlana Skvortsova, a student.

"The Soviet Union struck to its unilateral moratorium on all nuclear blasts in its sincere striving for a nuclear-free future. The White House, however, brazenly challenged all of mankind."

The Soviet youth did not consider the question of banning nuclear testing as closed, young researcher Aleksey Goncbarenko told the press conference.

His view is shared by millions of people all over the world, including the United States. Ending nuclear explosions can and should become the first and most important step towards a peaceful future.

That is why the Soviet young people called on millions of their peers in other countries to step up the campaign for banning nuclear testing.

'Paranoic Reliance on Force'

LD111736 Moscow TASS in English 1650 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 11 TASS -- TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

Representatives of the Washington adminstration try in every way to justify the fresh U.S. nuclear explosion in Nevada. Deputy Press Secretary of the White House Edward Djerejian at a meeting with journalists asserted that neither a moratorium, nor a comprehensive test ban would consolidate security, stability and peace in present-day conditions, and therefore the tests would be continued. But this is a false stand. It is aimed at camouflaging Washington's actual renunciation of the spirit of Geneva, if it ever sincerely pledged allegiance to it at all.

As is known, encouraging statements to the effect that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought and that the sides would not seek to achieve military superiority were made on the U.S. part at the Soviet-U.S. summit in Geneva.

Moreover, in the new-year TV address to the Soviet people on January 1, 1986, the head of the White House assured the TV viewers that the USA was determined to build relations between the two countries in the coming months on the understanding achieved in Geneva.

"I see a busy year ahead in building on the foundations laid in Geneva", he said.

And what is taking place in reality? While the Soviet Union continued to observe its voluntarily assumed unilateral moratorium on all nuclear testing, they in Washington started breaking up those foundations by nuclear explosions in Nevada, by ostentatious preparations for "star wars". It should be added that the anti-Soviet campaign has been resumed in the USA with new force. That campaign abounds in all sort of falsehoods and insults directed at the Soviet Union.

The newspaper "BOSTON GLOBE" pointed out that the real reason why the U.S. Administration rejected the Soviet proposal on the moratorium is that unlike other administrations it is not satisfied with an approximately equal U.S.-Soviet strategic balance.

The present U.S. administration needs a certain degree of military superiority to bring pressure on the Soviet Union. But this is a dangerous and almost certainly an illusory aim, the newspaper warns.

It is clear that Washington's deeds differ from its words, that it is striving with all its might for military superiority.

Yesterday's nuclear explosion in Nevada that caused anger and indignation the world over attests to Washington's extreme unreliability as a political partner, reveals its perfidy and its almost paranoic reliance on force.

'Challenging, Cancerous' Blast

LD112253 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Vladimir Dunayev report from Washington; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[text] The nuclear explosion in the state of Nevada, challenging, cancerous, -- as it has been called here -- has produced a resounding echo in Washington. Senators from Boeing, ministers from Lockheed, all the reactionaries, all those who are fond of using the military stick, are now rejoicing, so to speak, applauding the White House. Those legislators who are aware of what anxieties and dangers now will arise following that explosion in Nevada are trying to do something at the last moment. They want to bring in restrictions on allocations for new nuclear explosions. Incidentally, another explosion in Nevada is planned for next week and what is more, another nuclear explosion is planned for 22-23 April.

It must be said that on Tuesday and then on Wednesday when these tests were postponed, set aside, hopes arose here.

Many commentators started saying: Well you see, be it reluctantly or at the last moment, the White House is all the same ready to put off these tests in order to create, for all that, a more favorable atmosphere during talks on the forthcoming new Soviet-U.S. summit meeting. But these local commentators overestimated the ability of the present administration to think soberly and with foresight and did not sufficiently appraise its militarist instinct. Not only those fighters for peace who have converged at the Nevada testing place in order to hinder them, but also very many forces in the United States are now indignant and are protesting and organizing themselves. These are both lawyers and doctors and worried scientists. Actually, all U.S. observers agree with the view that the times of the nuclear tests were specially brought forward in order to somehow escape pressure, pressure inside the country from the American public, and pressure from U.S. allies.

Hopes 'Betrayed' by U.S.

PM111539 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Apr 86 First Edition p 5

[Article by Vladimir Bolshakov: "Observer's Opinion"]

[Text] Until the last minute there was a hope that the underground testing of the nuclear device at the Nevada test ground would be canceled. As you watched the teleprinters at our editorial office again setting about tapping out reports of the preparation in the United States for this test, codenamed "Mighty Oak," it was hard to avoid the feeling that what you were hearing was not the tapping of the teleprinters but the sound of a metronome counting down the time to the explosion.

And when seismological stations throughout the world nonetheless registered the explosion in Nevada, it reverberated with pain and anger in millions of hearts: "No, they did not cancel it!" Man's hopes of putting an end to lethal weapons tests in the very near future and clearing the way into a nuclear-free 21st century have been betrayed by the United States.

It is clear that the present administration headed by President R. Reagan has no intention of renouncing nuclear explosions in principle. It is seeking come what may to continue them with a view to creating nuclear weapons for "star wars," to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union. This was demonstrated by the "Mighty Oak," which has grown up from poisoned roots in Nevada.

The very name is no accident, it has its own symbolism. For official Washington it is a show of strength. For the rest of the world it is a symbol of how thoroughly the military-industrial complex, with its truly oak-hard approach to world politics in general and the problem of banning and eliminating nuclear weapons in particular, has become entrenched in U.S. society. Concern for gain and profit is clouding the eyes of the owners of the military corporations and their stooges and preventing them from seeing the objective truth. And that is that the United States has again wrecked the opportunity of halting the arms race which will add to no one's security but merely bring man closer to the brink of the nuclear abyss. Hopes of pushing others there while the United States stays on the brink are truly insane.

"In the 5 years the Reagan administration has firmly opposed a ban of nuclear test explosions," THE BOSTON GLOBE writes, "not only have security problems become more complex but the United States has found itself at a disadvantage in vying with the Soviet Union for the sympathy of world public opinion." These words were written on the eve of the Nevada explosion. They are even more topical now.

The explosion in Nevada has generated everywhere an explosion of indignation and protest from people of goodwill. The sympathies of the world's peoples are with those who are struggling to prevent nuclear war. In this, in the support given to our party's policy by the Soviet people, the socialist countries, and all honest people in the world, the CPSU derives strength, consistently seeking the goals set in M.S. Gorbachev's statement of 15 January this year. The USSR's peace offensive cannot be halted by nuclear provocations! The USSR proceeds from the premise that security problems in the nuclear age are a matter not only for statesmen and politicians but also for all peoples. May there resound persistently, daily, and everywhere over our planet the words: "No to nuclear tests! Yes to nuclear disarmament!"

PRAVDA Editor Comments

LD130146 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Commentary by Tomas Kolesnichenko, member of PRAVDA editorial collegium; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Hello, comrades! You have just received a new confirmation that the echo of the nulcear explosion at the U.S. testing ground in Nevada has not yet faded away [referring to previous news items condemning Nevada test]. On the contrary, it is taking in more and more countries and continents, in effect our entire planet. And it is charateristic that there is today no serious comment by the leading mass information media that fails to point out the diametrically opposed approached that the Soviet Union and the United States take to the most urgent topic of modern times, the problem of war and peace. It has become obvious, as the saying goes, who is who: Who is for seeking a solution to this problem and is taking realistic steps along this path; and who only says they are for peace, while in fact are threatening mankind with a nuclear sword -- as Washington proved by the Nevada test. For only one thing was required of Washington: that it should respond to the Soviet initiative. The opportunity to stop nuclear tests, and therefore, the opportunity to destroy nuclear weapons, would already, this very day, have become a reality. Unfortunately, this did not happen. It is Washington's fault that a historic chance has been missed.

But what now? Yesterday's statement by the Soviet Government, which is now at the center of world press attention, provides an answer to that question. The Soviet Union expresses its readiness to return at any time to the issue of a mutual moratorium on nuclear explosions; we are ready to start negotiations on a total ban on nuclear weapons; are ready for any form of negotiations and any sort of accord, as long as it works toward reaching agreement. One thing is needed for this to succeed: goodwill and a manifestation of responsibility and realism on Washington's part. So, as the Americans say, the ball is in their court.

As for the Soviet Union, as is clear from our government's statement, we will continue to fight for a halt to nuclear tests and for a world [mir] without nuclear weapons. This task remains -- it is topical and pressing.

Nevada Test 'Irresponsible'

LD131757 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 13 Apr 86

[Report from the "International Panorama" program presented by Boris Kalyagin]

[Excerpts] The world is indignant and alarmed at the U.S. Administration's new irresponsible step, the explosion of an underground nuclear device.

Up to the last minute, many still hoped that maybe this time Washington would listen to the voice of reason. These expectations rose when it became known that the nuclear test scheduled for Tuesday had been postponed. Some Western observers began suggesting that this delay was possibly a manifestation that the U.S. Administration had finally decided to demonstrate goodwill. Washington's actions have, however, disproved that optimistic assessment. At the last minute, members of the international organization Greenpeace made a desperate attempt to hinder the test. Six of them got through to the nuclear testing grounds in Nevada, but they were spotted by guards from a helicopter and arrested. Several dozen demonstrators who had organized a protest to the blast were also thrown behind bars. The authorities even announced that anyone attempting to get through to the testing grounds would be considered terrorists. Incidentally, this once again shows who gets to be called a terrorist in the United States.

The current action has bared to the whole world the true face of those in power in Washington. If the leader across the ocean previously succeeded sometimes in misleading public opinion and camouflaging his militaristic positions with references to the Soviet Union's intransigence over verification, they are now deprived of that maneuver. The Soviet Union advocates the strictest verification of the fulfillment of a nuclear test ban agreement, right up to on-site inspection. The United States, however, has refused to make use of the historic opportunity afforded to them to block the path of the arms race. The current administration has demonstrated that the military-industrial complex profits and the wish to try to get military-political hegemony in the world means more to it than mankind's vital interests, including those of the U.S. people. [video shows Nevada blast and demonstrators]

The USSR Government has declared that it is henceforth free of the unilateral obligation it assumed to refrain from conducting any nuclear explosions. At the same time, our country expresses its readiness to return at any time to a mutual moratorium. Thus, the solution to this problem depends, as before, on the United States.

Saber rattling is not the right way to promote agreement with our country. Yet this is precisely what the United States is up to now. The only thing the U.S. Administration retains from Ceneva, it seems, is talk about a new meeting between the U.S. President and the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The Soviet side, as Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev has stressed, favors such a meeting. We want it, however, to yield practical results toward halting the arms race. The meeting can take place if the atmosphere of Geneva is resurrected. We cannot fail to note that attempts are being made to make use of the bogged-down Soviet-U.S. dialogue in order to cover up the accomplishment of military goals.

COMPARISON OF GOVERNMENT ON MORATORIUM

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 12 April carries in its First Edition on page 1 the text of the Soviet Government Statement on the nuclear explosion moratorium. The PRAVDA report, entitled "Soviet Government Statement," has been compated to the Moscow TASS English version published in the 11 April Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, pp AA 6-8, revealing the following variation:

Paragraph one, line one in PRAVDA reads: [Text] The nuclear explosion (omitting first paragraph)

USSR REJECTS TERRORISM 'IN ANY FORM'; ACCUSES U.S.

LD111633 Moscow TASS in English 1616 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 11 TASS -- The Soviet Union has declared and will be declaring against terrorism, Valeriy Sukhin, deputy chief of the Press Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry, said at a briefing for Soviet and foreign reporters today. Rejection of terrorism in any form is the Soviet Union's principled stand, which has been confirmed again at the 27th CPSU Congress.

We believe that terrorism cannot be ended unless its causes are removed, said the spokesman for the USSR Foreign Ministry. These causes are the striving to impose alien will on sovereign peoples, the interference in the affairs of other countries and regions, attempts to perpetuate inequitable conditions of the existence of some countries at the expense of the interests of others. These are actually manifestations of terrorism, too, in this case state terrorism. The latest manifestations of state terrorism are well known. They were with regard to Nicaragua, Libya, other countries and regions. The U.S. intentions to take weapons and mercenaries to Ghana, which were reported, have been assessed by Valeriy Sukhin as an example of international terrorism. This anti-Ghanaian action was prepared and planned in the USA and mercenaries were recruited in the USA, too, he said.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD132037 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 13 Apr 86

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Spartak Ivanovich Beglov, APN Political Observer; Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich Bovin, IZVESTIYA Political Observer; and Vladimir Yakovlevich Tsvetov, Central Television and All-Union Radio Political Observer]

[Text] [Tsvetov] Hello, comrades! Despite the insistent calls by world public opinion and U.S. public opinion itself to heed the voice of common sense, and despite the warning by the Soviet Union that it will be compelled to abandon its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests, the United States has nevertheless carried out an underground nuclear explosion. The significance of this step by the U.S. Administration lies not only in the fact, although this is evidently the most important thing, that it has demonstrated its obsession with the idea of achieving nuclear superiority over the Soviet Union, but also in the fact that the Washington authorities have shown the world once again that they have no desire to adhere to the accords reached at the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva. You will remember that the sides agreed there to limit and reduce nuclear armaments and to strengthen strategic stability. It would appear that certain circles in Washington became frightened by the fact that points of contact in the positions of the USSR and the United States took shape in Geneva, and now those circles are trying to destroy the atmosphere of Geneva.

[Beglov] In this connection, I recall something that was said by a prominent U.S. publicist and member of the family that publishes THE NEW YORK TIMES from his observations of the actions of the present administration: The White House is not afraid to take a risk for the sake of war, but it is absolutely incapable of risking anything at all for the sake of peace.

[Bovin] That explosion did not surprise me at all -- it was all quite easy to predict. What is very interesting here is the evolution of the arguments that the White House is putting forth to defend its position. At first, as all our comrades know, they kept speaking about monitoring, saying that it was impossible to monitor.

Then we said: OK, since that is what is worrying you, please come over and let us negotiate about on-site monitoring. No porblem. Then they said: OK, you come over to us and let us monitor how we carry out explosions and how you carry them out. We said: But where is the logic? Let us do the monitoring to ensure that there are no explosions. After that, they stopped making a special fuss about monitoring and told the actual truth: We need nuclear weapons. We need to develop them. We need to have them reliable. So we will carry out nuclear explosions.

[Tsvetov] They need them to produce both new types of nuclear weapons and also the components of space weapons.

[Bovin] Precisely, precisely. After that they say: Let us first of all come to an agreement on doing away with nuclear weapons, and then we will stop the explosions. But that, too, is some sort of terribly curious logic. After all, what is the whole point of ending tests? Of course it does not end the arms race, but it does hamper it, because if there are not explosions it means you cannot create new weapons. It means you are not sure of the quality, so to speak, of the weapons that you have stockpiled. And all this hampers the arms race, which is in fact what is needed. That is precisely what our logic is: Let us not carry out explosions -- that will help us reduce the intensity of the arms race, and then we will come to an agreement. That is actual logic. But what on earth is the logic in saying: Let us first come to an agreement, then after that we will not carry out explosions.

[Beglov] There is logic, however, in the action.

[Bovin] Yes, of course, there is logic in the action.

[Beglov] We have spoken of the logic of the absurd in what is said, but there is without doubt a logic in the action, and if you take a look at the U.S. record of what it has done in this regard you can see that since 1945-46, it has been making leaps forward in the development of new nuclear technology -- by now probably several dozen such leaps forward. But now it is simply a matter of their wanting to seize the monopoly on a new generation of nuclear weapons, and it is no accident that precisely now, as has become known, $2 billion -- a whole $2 billion -- is being allocated for improving the whole complex...

[Tsvetov] The test site.

[Beglov] Yes, at the test site, and for what? In order to modernize the enterprises which produce tritium, uranium, and plutonium -- the chief nuclear materials; funds will be allocated for the construction of modern, new laboratories for studying the possibilities of the nuclear trigger and improving the nuclear trigger on laser weapons for space systems; and finally, they intend to improve nuclear warheads for new strategic offensive systems such as Trident-2.

[Tsvetov] The MX...

[Beglov] ... Midgetman and others. It has the air of not just a 5-year plan, but, I would say, of a 15-year plan or a 20-year plan.

[Bovin] But still, if you insert all this into the overall U.S. logic, the picture looks like this: They say: Let us talk about arms reduction. They are by all means ready to talk about it, but in practice, parallel with that, they are working toward an increase in nuclear potentials. And from the point of view of such logic, I do indeed sometimes wonder whether such logic can fit with any real prospect of reaching an agreement on arms reduction. That is a very real question.

[Tsvetov] We have just said why the United States needs nuclear tests: to check the readiness of its nuclear weapons already in existence, to create new types of nuclear weapons, and to develop the components of space weapons. But these nuclear explosions and the refusal to join the moratorium we proposed not only have a military aim, but a political one as well. It is a sort of nuclear trigger for the overall aggressive course of U.S. policy -- namely, to step up world tension, to complicate Soviet-U.S. relations, and, in this unbelievably complicated and alarming atmosphere, to threaten countries and nations by force, to demonstrate force, and, wherever the situation allows, to set force in motion.

[Bovin] The arrogance of force is one of the characteristic features of their policy. Take what happened to us in the Black Sea, when they turned up at Lastochkino Gnezdo. And what happened off the shores of Libya? All that business over our mission at the United Nations. And the hysterics that are going on over Nicaragua. And of course, people sometimes express the thought that, look, the Americans are behaving like boors, but we seem to be doing nothing in response. I have recently received several letters in this vein: How could this have happened, Comrade Bovin? We should have sunk the U.S. ships that came into our territory there. While thinking about this, a thought came into my mind. In 1976, the Americans celebrated the 200th anniversary of their independence, while our state is, I think, over a thousand years old, so as you can see we are 5 times older than they are...

[Beglov] Five times older.

[Bovin] Five times older, yes, and we have far greater historical experience, a far richer cultural tradition, for example, and tradition of political thought. The degree, as it were, of our responsibility in world politics, as actual experience shows, is considerably higher. It is the simplest thing in the world to say an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth, but the stakes are very high. Our restraint and self-possession indicate precisely the responsible nature of our policies. Incidentally, the British weekly OBSERVER, which is a quite respectable bourgeois weekly, printed an article entitled "Rambo Prances in Washington," in which the author writes that the West would be shocked if Gorbachev indulged in the outbursts of emotion that we accept as the normal course of U.S. foreign policy. He concludes his article with the thought that Reagan's foreign policy is the foreign policy of a fanatic, not a statesman.

[Tsvetov] The statement by the Soviet Government that was published on Friday is yet another piece of evidence that our policy is based, not on emotions, but on healthy reasoning. Despite the blatantly fanatical devotion of the U.S. Administration to continuing nuclear tests, the Soviet Union rexpressed its readiness to return, at any time, to a mutual moratorium on nuclear explosions if, of course, the U.S. Government states that it will refrain from carrying out such explosions. At the same time, the Soviet Government confirmed once again its proposal that talks be started without delay on a complete ban on nuclear weapons tests. Surely reason will prevail some time in U.S. policy.

[Beglov] There is nothing left to do for the rest of world but to tell the Americans: Your morality, the morality of your politics has dropped to an all-time low. Let us recall what it was like 23 years ago, when the Moscow treaty on the prohibition of tests in three environments was signed. I happened to be in the United States at that time and saw to what extent people had taken heart who, well, literally, as they say, felt at a dead end over all the misuse of U.S. strength and its arbitrary nature. They could not see a way out. Then finally, there appeared a statesman in the United States, John Kennedy, who, following his very unsuccessful experience in this fist law -- you remember the incursion in the Bay of Pigs and the Caribbean crisis -- said: No, we must start over; we have to put an end to this; we must put down a new marker so that there will be a new beginning in our policy.

[Bovin] All the same, things are getting to the stage where there must be a new summit-level meeting. We would like it to be a new one, not only in terms of its ordinal number but also its content. The question that is most ready for a solution in principle is in fact the question of terminating nuclear tests. There have been many talks and the positions are to a large extent agreed. The only thing remaining is purely political will and a few technical details. On precisely this question, the United States, as we have just now been saying, says "no" in the most decisive manner. The question then indeed arises: What is it that they want from this new meeting? What are they working toward in general?

[Tsvetov] This kind of analogy arises: The United States invites our observers to the nuclear test site, not to check the termination of nuclear explosions, but to register these explosions, more precisely so as to bless them by their presence. In the same way, summit-level talks should, according to the United States, be just a sort of background against which it is easier to continue their arms race policy.

[Beglov] At any rate, it is clear on our side that we will not compete with them in a demonstration of strength and we will not compete with them in the game of whipping up a new cold war. This, as they say, is their choice and their responsibility. Our choice is different. Our attitude toward the next meeting and our aim at the next meeting boils down to the fact that it should yield both a new quality in relations between the two countries and a new quality with regard to the issues concerning disarmament and those proposals on the agenda. Without a new quality, there can be, of course, no question of the Geneva process, as it is now called, continuing and serving the cause of a change for the better in international affairs.

[Bovin] While there is still just the slightest chance, the task of the politician is to use that chance. If there is no chance, the task is to create the chance...

[Tsvetov, interrupting] ...create the chance...

[Bovin] ...to create that chance, because, I repeat, the stakes are so high, and, our leaders are doing precisely this, without yielding to this virtual provocation the Americans are arranging, without answering force with force, so to speak, by trying somehow to approach all these problems sensibly -- complex, difficult, extremely contradictory as they are -- and to oppose this outburst of force, or whatever, with sense, responsibility, and restraint. If the U.S. tries to put us off concerning this matter, I am sure we will not yield to them.

[Tsvetov] Now we recall that at the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva the U.S. side did not wish at that time to renounce the star wars program, or as it is officially called, the Strategic Defense Initiative. Five months have passed since that time however. In these 5 months, opinions have been expressed on the SDI above all by scientists, expressed by many state leaders, expressed -- and this is interesting -- by many former U.S. secretaries of defense and many former U.S. generals. The conclusion of the majority of these reactions is such that the creation of space weapons is, on the one hand, senseless, and, on the other hand, dangerous. Nevertheless, the United States is putting the star wars program into full gear.

[Beglov] Well, for Reagan, this star wars program is in a way something deeply personal. He really believes that he will achieve it, that will be it, and nuclear weapons will not be needed; they will become obsolete and unnecessary.

Even though this argument is absolutely unsubstantiated from an objective point of view and falls apart under objective analysis, Reagan believes in this, and a certain group of people who surround him evidently believe this.

And so they do their best to crank it up more and more, more so since there is a smell in the air not just of billions of dollars -- but of tens and hundreds of billions of dollars -- and the military-industrial complex -- a huge force in the states -- of course energetically supports all the business. And the result -- well, the result is such that the balance of terror unfortunately is accompanied by a balance of mistrust, too. So this mistrust will grow even further, because when we are faced with the fact of the start of these programs, we will also have to take certain countermeasures in the sphere of offensive arms and in the sphere of strategic arms. In general, the faster all this gathers pace, the more dangerous it will become to live in this world of ours, unfortunately. And this worries us above all.

[Tsvetov] Well, as the Soviet Union has more than once stated, it will not allow any superiority over itself, and the Soviet Union, in response to the U.S. star wars program, will propose and implement its own program, of course, and it will not necessarily be in space. Last week, the Warsaw Pact signatories appealed to the European states and also to the United States and Canada on the question of creating nuclear-free zones in Europe. This appeal says that such zones already exist in certain areas of the world, that this is already a political reality; and this is indeed so. If the current international situation has suggested this sort of thing...

[Bovin, interrupting] There are already three such zones: These are first of all, will include Antarctica, even though it is not one formally; Latin America, and now a certain zone in the Pacific Ocean...

[Beglov, interrupting] ...the southern part...

[Bovin] Yes, the southern part of the Pacific Ocean; there is already so to speak a corresponding agreement...

[Tsvetov, interrupting] That is, if there now exists only one path to achieving nuclear disarmament, that is, step-by-step disarmament, then it is evidently toward the same goal that this, if it can be so expressed, area-by-area solution leads. Now, Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich, you called one of your articles on this theme "The Zones of the Future." But this future already has its past: I would like you to give us a historical look at the issue.

[Bovin] You see here, you simply have to look at the juridical construction, perhaps, of these nuclear-free zones -- there are two main elements: The state pledges not to deploy, not to produce, and not to maintain nuclear weapons on its territory. This is the first aspect; and the second aspect is that the nuclear powers, for their part, pledge to respect this nuclear-free status and in no way use the threat of nuclear weapons against these states, not to insist on the siting of weapons on their territories, and so on and so forth. So these two elements must coincide. They do not always coincide. For example, take the latest case of the nuclear-free zone in the southern party of the Pacific Ocean, the Soviet Union naturally said: Go ahead! We are ready to sign a corresponding protocol. The Chinese have reacted generally positively to this. But such nuclear powers as the United States, France, and England, have at best kept up an ill-wishing silence.

[Beglov, interrupting] The French have quite openly said that they are against...

[Bovin, interrupting] They have actively [word indistinct], they carry out tests there. So you see here, the whole thing is quite complex. But in Europe there has been talk about this for a long time. There are different variants here -- for example, a nuclear weapons-free zone in the north of Europe, the variant of the Balkans nuclear weapons-free zone, and finally, this corridor which Palme in his time proposed, which...

[Tsvetov, interrupting] ...which is set forth here in this appeal...

[Bovin] Yes, yes, a nuclear-free corridor in central Europe. Nuclear weapons would be removed from the borders dividing East and West in Europe. Here one may argue about the width of this cooridor, but the most important thing here is this: Who is against this? The NATO countries are against it.

[Tsvetsov] And the arguments against this are interesting. I recall the discussion of the issue of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe. The idea was put forward back in 1963. And what were the arguments they immediately began at that time? First, that the creation of a nuclear-free zone would increase the danger of a nuclear war; that is, they said, it would unbind the hands of the Soviet Union. But the argument is both completely unacceptable and simply stupid.

[Beglov] Now, by the way, those in NATO rely on another argument, if one may call it that. In the countries of northern Europe, irrespective of whether or not they belong to military alliances, there are, practically speaking, no nuclear weapons.

[Tsvetsov] That, and it makes no sense, is what they say.

[Beglov] Why should we set all that up, because, then, they say, we will be playing a game that is against the interests of the Atlantic alliance and, by implication in the interests of the Soviet Union. Where is the fallacy in such thinking? People presently say, you know, that in Europe it is difficult to start disarmament, including nuclear disarmament because there is no trust. No, there is enough trust. What is a nuclear-free zone? What is the guarantee countries give that they will not site weapons on their territory and the guarantee of the nuclear powers that they will strictly observe their pledges? This is in fact a format for achieving a new level of trust in a specific way.

[Tsvetov] That is, the creation of a zone of trust, as I would call it.

[Beglov] A zone of trust and specific attitudes of trust between the Warsaw Pact and the Atlantic Alliance.

[Tsvetov] I would like to draw attention to another negative argument the NATO leaders are putting forward, namely that the participation, say, of Denmark and Norway in a nuclear-free zone, will limit their freedom of political action.

[Bovin] Well, that limits everyone to the same extent, Sweden, Finland, and our own country, insofar as we will adhere to this. A treaty, any accord limits the rights of those who participate in it to the same degree. You take certain obligations upon yourself. That is the whole point.

[Beglov] A very important watershed is being revealed now between two positions and tendencies in world politics. Some say: Let us not think only about what we will do and say, in the sphere of disarmament, but let us also strive to reach agreement on and perhaps even start with what not to do. If you agree on what not to do, it is easier to talk about what to do. This is the whole problem and it is very important in the context of the struggle for a nuclear-free zone. The more nonnuclear oases there are, the more states are removed from the zone, from the sphere of nuclear strategy, nuclear policy, and nuclear confrontation, and the easier it is to resolve the complex issues.

[Tsvetov] This idea about creating a nuclear-free zone in Europe, and not only in Europe, really does have a great future, because, after all, nuclear-free zones are now being created not only within the framework of states or of certain regions of the globe, but in individual towns there are even neighborhoods that are declaring themselves nuclear-free zones. This is an indicator of a tendency, an indicator of a desire of the population to have world without nuclear weapons.

Following a decision by the WPC, Asia Week was held 5-12 April. The aim of the week was to activate efforts of the public to strengthen peace and security on the Asian continent and in bordering regions of the Pacific and Indian Oceans. The importance of this week is due, in my opinion, to two things above all: First, Asia is now the most dynamically developing region, where the rates of economic growth in many ways exceed the rates of economic growth in other regions of the world. And then at the same time, this region is distinctive in terms of the enormous number of conflicts, both those that have already broken out, and also those that are still latently smoldering. For this reason, the creation here of an atmosphere of peace and security is extremely important. We are proposing, by the way, a very successful, in my view, approach for the region that is, the comprehensive resolution of security issues. What is being considered here, in my view, is taking into accout the proposals and intentions in the sphere of peace and security, of course, of all those involved in this region. I recall the most significant of these proposals. There is, above all, the all-embracing system of international security put forth by the 27th CPSU Congress. Further, there is a Soviet proposal to discuss and to adopt measures for trust in the Far East, with the participation of all interested countries. Such a step might lead to a lowering of the tension in the region and place one kind of barrier in the path of the arms race. The convocation of a conference of all Asian countries and working out, as proposed by the Mongolian Government, a convention of mutual nonaggression and the nonuse of violence between the states of Asia and of the Pacific Ocean might constitute a substantial contribution to the cause of peace in Asia.

The improvement of the atmosphere in the Far East would be facilitated by an accord on the mutual prevention of the deployment here of new intermediate range nuclear systems. The Soviet Union considers that alongside measures embracing the whole Asian Continent, the gradual attainment of various accords at subregional level would be of important significance, for expample the accords the DPRK is proposing to South Korea. The implementation of the initiatives of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia aimed at attaining mutual understanding and a normalization of relations with the ASEAN countries would be a contribution to lowering tension in Southeast Asia. As to whether these proposals are good or bad, whether they are appropriate or not for one set of states or another, must, of course, be decided at the negotiating table. Above all it is necessary to map out the general line of movement toward peace and security in the region.

[Beglov] I think here, of course, the main thing, given all the complexity of the issue -- and the Asian and Pacific region is indeed such a huge geopolitical concept embracing half the globe with its subregional problems, the like of which have already been talked about here. In general, however, it is necessary to choose between two tendencies. One tendency is the U.S. tendency. This is to make use of the Asian and Pacific Ocean region as a whole or in parts, as a sort of element in the U.S. strategic system, and I would say, following the NATO model. I would call it the eastern front against the USSR and its allies in the Asian and Pacific Ocean regions. That is the U.S. approach. They approach any country or any region with one view: What value does the country represent for them from the point of view of ensuring their so-called vital interests and their global confrontation with the Soviet Union.

The other tendency runs through all the proposals you mentioned: the Soviet Union, the Mongolian People's Republic, the DPRK, the countries of Southeast Asia, India, and many others really want to create, country by country, zone by zone, in the final analysis a general zone of peace. That, it seems to me, is what lies behind our approach to this issue.

[Tsvetov] To conclude our conversation at the roundtable, I would like to express the hope that the present year, declared the International Year of Peace by the United Nations, will continue to be used by the peace-loving public to bring about practical steps in the direction of really freeing humanity from the threat of a nuclear catastrophe. The foreign policy of the Soviet Union, other socialist countries, and the nonaligned countries and also the existence of sensible politicans in the capitalist states themselves serve as the basis for this hope.

REPORTAGE ON AAPSO CONFERENCE IN KABUL

New Information Order Viewed

LD100559 Moscow TASS in English 2004 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul April 9 TASS -- Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Council, has sent a message of greetings to the participants in the second conference of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization [AAPSO] on issues of establishing a new international information order, which opened here today.

Using their financial and technological potential, international imperialism nd reaction are out to ensure their cultural and ideological domination over the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Many ideological acts of sabotage against the forces of peace and progress are launched under the Pentagon's and the CIA's direct control, the message says. Even such international organizations as the U.N. and UNESCO have now become targets of information imperialism. The mass media of the imperialist states have become a tool of maintaining tensions in the world, of continuing the arms race, and creating a threat to mankind's cultural and moral values, the message says.

An example of this policy of the imperialist and reactionary circles is the ideological war against revolutionary Afghanistan, which can be rightly called a component part of the undeclared war being waged against it, Babrak Karmal stressed.

A report on behalf of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan was delivered by Haji Mohammad Tsamkani, vice chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council. Imperialism and neocolonialism, he said, have launched an unprecedented ideological war against the forces of peace, progress and socialism. Lies and slanders are the main weapons of the imperialist stategist and militaristic circles of the USA and other NATO countries in that war.

The Western secret services play an increasing role in imperialism's ideological offensive. Thus, the U.S. CIA uses in its activity more than twelve hundred mass media in the United States and abroad. CIA stuff is spread daily by 200 newspapers, 30 news agencies and 20 radio stations in various countries of the world. The Pentagon also makes its contribution -- the programmes controlled by it are spread by 250 radio and 40 TV centres.

The so-called peace committees of the United States act as champions of the Washington administration's policy in 60 countries of Asia, Latin America and Africa. Nearly 2,500 million dollars are annually set aside by Washington for ideological expansion overseas, H.M. Tsamkani said.

Vadington, a representative of Mozambique, addressed the conference on behalf of the African countries. Our struggle, he said, is directed against the dominance of the international news monopolies. Journalists of the world, Vadington stressed, declare their solidarity with UNESCO and AAPSO, particularly on the issue under discussion.

The newly-liberated Asian and African nations suffer considerable damage as a result of subversive activity of international news monopolies, India's representative Kumar Santosh said, speaking on behalf of the Asian states. This happens because the Western news agencies serve the imperialist interests. They destabilise the situations and hatch plots against the national liberation movements, against Afghanistan, Libya and other countries.

The struggle for a new information order is above all that against imperialism, Mohammad Abdou, a representative of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, said on behalf of the Arab countries. We welcome the heroic Afghan people, who are engaged in a fight against imperialism, and declare our solidarity with them.

The delegates to the conference were addressed by Vladimir Sevruk, member of the presidium of the Soviet Committee of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Organization, the head of the Soviet delegation. On behalf of the committee and the many thousand strong contingent of Soviet journalists, he welcomed the delegates to the conference and wished them much success in the work of the conference.

The establishment of a new international information order will serve the interests of peace and progress, said Dalanchik, a representative of Greece, speaking on behalf of the capitalist countries.

T. Granados, a representative of Cuba, declared, on behalf of the Latin American countries, their solidarity with the Afghan people.

The international information order of imperialism is one of the forms of colonialism. Everybody should oppose such a state of things, emphasized Chitri, a representative of the international organization of journalists.

Final Communique Criticizes U.S.

LD130901 Moscow TASS in English 0724 GMT 13 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul April 13 TASS -- The Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization has ended a conference on a new international information order in the Afghan capital.

The attending 50-odd delegations from different countries and representatives of eight international organizations discussed ways of stepping up opposition to imperialists' sway in the field of information in developing countries.

They also examined the issues of training personnel for the mass media of newly-free nations, the cooperation of national and regional news agencies with democratic international organizations, and resistance to U.S. imperialists' subversive activities against the United Nations, UNESCO and other international organizations.

The conference, which ran under the motto "A New International Information Order in the Service of Peace and Progress", sent a cable to U.S. Secretary-Ceneral Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Expressing outrage at the recent U.S. nuclear blast, it denounced the U.S. Administration's irresponsible action as an insolent challenge to world public opinion.

The cable said the spiral of the U.S. provoked arms race is propelling the world to a nuclear disaster. But the peace-minded nations still hope, it added, that reason will triumph and the United States will give a positive reply to the Soviet Union's constructive peace proposals.

The delegates also adopted a final communique stressing the need for every effort by the democratic mass media to counter imperialists' attempts to aggravate international tension and impart a fresh impetus to the arms race. The communique voiced concern about the U.S. Administration's negative attitude to the problem of bridling the arms race and the Soviet Union's constructive proposals for destroying all nuclear weapons by century's end. It sharply criticized U.S. imperialists' aggressive designs against independent and sovereign nations rejecting imperialist dictates such as Angola, Nicaragua, Afghanistan and Libya.

The conferees strongly censured the West's slanderous propaganda campaign, with the imperialist mass media going out of their way to present national liberation movements as "terrorist outfits" and hushing up the real instances of state-sponsored terrorism on the part of U.S. imperialists and their allies, in particular Israeli Zionists and South African racists. The communique stressed the important role to be played in overcoming developing nations' dependence on the West in the field of information by broader cooperation with socialist countries. Efforts for a new international information order, the conference said in a message to UNESCO Director-General Anadou Mahtar M'bow, are part and parcel of the campaign for peace and security. The delegates voiced solidarity with UNESCO's activities to promote state-to-state cooperation and peace on earth.

In their message they called on all governments and progessive and peace forces to give all kinds of support to UNESCO and protect it from political and economic pressure from the United States and Britain.

The attendees expressed profound gratitude to the people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan for the provided possibility to hold the AAPSO Conference successfully. In an address to the Afghan people they said the delegates to this important international forum have demonstrated solidarity with the Afghans' ideals and rightful aspirations. The advances made by Afghanistan over the past eight years, the address said, attest to the fact that, despite all the scheming by imperialists and reactionaries, the Afghan people's will for progressive change and their determinstion to decide their future theselves are unconquerable. The vicious propaganda campaign mounted by international imperialists as part of their undeclared war on Democratic Afghanistan, the conferees said, cannot conceal the truth about the revolution in Afghanistan or its people.

The attendees at the conference, the address said, consider it their duty, a duty of honest journalists, to give comprehensive coverage to Afghanistan's achievements in political, social, economic and cultural fields and refute the lies about this country appearing in the Western press. They also regard it as their duty to identify with the Afghan people's efforts for peace and goodneighbourly relations on a basis of the right to self-determination, non-interference in domestic affairs and respect for national sovereignty.

The final session of the conference was addressed by Anahita Ratebzad, a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and an AAPSO vice-president. She spoke highly of the work by the conference and expressed satisfaction with its results. A new international information order, she said, is an important condition of peace, security and cooperation in the world.

Conference Ends

LD130203 Moscow TASS in English 1636 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul April 12 TASS -- The second conference of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization on a new international information order has come to a close here today.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON U.S.-LIBYAN TENSIONS

LD111522 Moscow TASS in English 1503 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] New York April 11 TASS -- The Reagan administration is preparing a new armed attack on Libya. The NEW YORK POST reports today that President Reagan has approved in principle a plan of striking blows at targets on Libyan territory. In accordance with this plan, the Pentagon intends to conduct air strikes against Libyan anti-aircraft complexes situated on the shore of the Gulf of Sidra and against airfields in the area of Tripoli.

These aggressive plans of the United States gives rise to objections even among its closest allies. As reported by the NEW YORK POST, the British and Italian Governments have refused to give the United States the right to use their air bases in carrying out a new aggression against Libya. Egypt has taken a similar stand.

U.S. Incites 'Military Hysteria'

LD112045 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Arabic 1530 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] The United States is preparing another armed provocation in the southern Mediterranean. The aircraft carriers America and Coral Sea and other 6th Fleet ships are going toward the shores of the Libyan Jamahiriyah. As it was arrogantly announced by a Pentagon official, the precise meaning of these movements is the completion of the action which began with the U.S. strikes against a number of Libyan targets at the end of last March.

At the same time, ABC television reports that the U.S. Defense Department has asked the space agencies for a complete set of photographs of Libya, which were obtained through the spy satellites, in order to choose the targets of the coming operation.

So, if we consider these feverish preparations by the United States, then the issue is about preparing for a wide-range armed aggression against Libya. The second step, according to the statement by Robert McFarlane, ex-assistant for National Security to the U.S. President, will be increasing the pressure on Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, even by the use of force.

A similar provocative stance was adopted by U.S. President Ronald Reagan himself when he spoke at a news conference in Washington. In his address at the conference, Reagan maliciously distorted the independent foreign course adopted by the Libyan leadership and heaped abuse on Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi personally. President Reagan justified the actions of the U.S. 6th Fleet against Libya and threatened it with more military actions. Later on, President Reagan was asked a legitimate question: Does this not lead to the death of many innocent people? The President's answers showed that the White House could care less about what might happen to victims among the civilian population or about the other consequences. As we can see, the U.S. Administration, ignoring the current facts, continues to bet on the use of force and on escaping the punishment for its aggressive practices, which violate the principles of international relations.

These dangerous concepts contain a threat to world peace and the security of all peoples without exception.

Then, Reagan himself admitted that the regional conflicts could develop into great all-out wars. If this statement has affected Washington's foreign policy course, however, then it has affected it in a different way: the United States is occupying the regions in which the United States itself plants the seeds of war and creates more points of tension and war danger.

Let us, for instance, take the focus of tension that was created in the southern Mediterranean because of the actions by the U.S. Administration. It is worth noting that Washington's aggressive practices arouse increasing concern among the Arab peoples, democratic public opinion, and naturally among the Soviet people. The Soviet Union calls for making the Mediterranean into a region of permanent peace and coexistence. The Soviet proposals specify spreading coordinated trust in this region by reducing the armed forces, withdrawing the ships carrying nuclear weapons from the Mediterranean, abandoning the deployment of nuclear weapons in the nonnuclear countries of the Mediterranean, and the nuclear powers making a commitment to not using force against any Mediterranean country which refuses the deployment of nuclear weapons on its territory.

It is also worth noting that the Soviet Union, not long ago submitted another long-term initiative for withdrawing U.S. and Soviet military ships from the Mediterranean. As the Washington leadership incites military hysteria in the region, it refuses to listen to reason. A spokesman for the U.S. State Department announced that the United States will never agree to withdraw its fleet from the Mediterranean. Again, this indicates that the U.S. imperialists care, before anything else, about practicing a policy of power much more than they care about reducing tension in the most explosive regions. This also is indicated by another series of feverish military preparation currently being carried out by the United States off the Libyan shores.

Neoglobalist Strategy Highlighted

LD111902 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Aleksandr Korshunov Commentary]

[Text] The development of events in the Mediterranean really leads any unbiased person to this kind of conclusion; judge for yourselves: The U.S. aircraft carriers Coral Sea and America have set sail from ports in Italy and Spain for Libyan shores. As U.S. Navy Secretary Lehman confirmed, they will be ready for action already today. Meanwhile, the NBC TV company reported: There is no question as to whether or not a strike will be delivered; it is all a matter of when it will be done.

In this way for the second time in the past week in the southern Mediterranean Sea, the most serious threat is arising to an independent Arab state and to peace in the Middle East region as a whole. This danger did not arise suddenly and its cause is far from it, being that aggressive Libya -- as the U.S. and other Western propaganda media suggest -- is encroaching on the political priorities of the free world. The root of the problem lies quite elsewhere: military and political blackmail, an economic blockade of Libya, and attacks on its leaders, sometimes even bordering on unprintable abuse, reflect the White House's extreme irritation with the independent policy of this Arab country. Libya has firmly stood up against imperialist expansion in the Middle East, against the U.S. attempts along with Zionist Israel to put the Arab world under its control.

But one forms the impression that Washington has seriously come to believe in the dangerous axiom, whose essence lies in force coming before right.

The anti-Libyan action is only an integral part of the policy of state terrorism conducted by the United States within the framework of the strategy of neoglobalism against those states which are defending their sovereignty and independence.

Today one would like to recall that the slogan "Force before right" is far from new; and history has always very severely punished all who have a short memory and have seized upon it as a weapon.

'Threat' Against Libya Scored

PM131810 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Apr 86 First Edition p 5

[Pavel Demchenko Commentator's Column: "Aircraft Carriers Against Libya"]

[Text] The threat of American aggression is again hanging over Libya. In recent days editorial office teleprinters have been tirelessly hammering out alarming reports describing preparations for this aggression. THE NEW YORK TIMES writes, for instance: "U.S. Administration spokesmen have declared that President Reagan has decided to keep two aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean in order to keep open -- for the immediate future -- the option of a threatened or real attack... The bias in favor of more forceful actions than those taken 2 weeks ago is intensifying in Washington."

The foreign press take the view that the main aim of the new military venture is "to rock the Al-Qadhdhafi government or bring about its fall." The aim itself is criminal, and so are the methods used to achieve it. But, clearly, this is not all. In a situation where the new nuclear explosion carried out in the United States 10 April provoked loud condemnation throughout the world, Washington would like to divert attention to events elsewhere in the world. It is therefore no accident that the accusations against Libya claiming that it supports terrorists intensified precisely during the days when the preparations for the underground bomb explosion at the test site in Nevada were nearly complete.

Whatever the details, these events are linked. They reflect the essence of the policy implemented by the present U.S. Administration, that is, building up strength and not hesitating to use it in various parts of the world.

In addition to this, U.S. diplomacy is trying to win over other countries -- the NATO allies and states in the Near East -- to its anti-Libyan actions... However, judging by everything, Washington's pressure has misfired. According to journalists, the NATO powers are either taking "minimal" measures or trying to avoid taking any measures at all. And Egypt, where Washington has dispatched its representatives, has dissociated itself from the hostile actions against the neighboring country. The Cairo press, just like newspapers in other Arab countries, is currently full of statements condemning the aggressive U.S. anti-Arab course. This, according to the U.S. press, allegedly "complicates" U.S. "action" against Libya. In particular, the United States has had to resort to aircraft carriers "only" because the European allies have failed to put their airfields at the service of U.S. bombers. And all this is being discussed openly and shamelessly as it if were a question of a pleasure cruise rather than preparations for a barbaric provocation which will sow death and destruction in Libya.

The saber rattling in the Mediterranean reflects the general thrust of U.S. foreign policy.

At the same time, it shows particularly clearly that, despite military and diplomatic failures in the Near East in past years, Washington has not given up the idea of establishing its supremacy in that part of the world. U.S. imperialism has again unmasked itself as the main enemy of the Arab peoples and the source of provocations against developing states.

U.S. To Use Bombers From UK

LD121732 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 12 Apr 86

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Oleg Blinov]

[Text] News agencies report that the United States is preparing new armed actions against Libya. For this, it is intended to use deck-based aircraft from the aircraft carriers Coral Sea and America, which together with their escort vessels are now approaching the Libyan shores. As THE NEW YORK TIMES reports, a total of 30 U.S. vessels will be within range for striking at Libya on 12 April. It is also planned to use U.S. strategic bombers based in Great Britain. The 6th Fleet's activity increased literally just a few hours after President Reagan made attacks on Libya at a press conference. On direct instructions from the President, the Pentagon has worked out and is elaborating a final plan for striking military and economic targets in Libya, an Arab country which does not wish to submit to U.S. diktat.

'Warlike' Preparations Noted

LD121242 Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 12 Apr 86

["USA Preparing to Strike at Libya" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Washington April 12 TASS -- Keeping up its anti-Libyan smear campaign, the United States has practically concluded its preparations for another aggression against Libya. ABC Television said the main forces of the U.S. 6th Fleet were now at actions stations and poised to strike at Libya as soon as the Reagan administration wished. The TV network had learnt that the aircraft-carriers Coral Sea and America, escorted by other naval ships, were already on their way to Libya from Sicily and would be sailing within a missile's reach from the Arab country.

Two U.S. carrier battle groups were now cruising 700 miles off Libya, while other U.S. aircraft and military units in the Mediterranean were staying on alert. Newspapers said the aircraft-carrier Eisenhower was also steaming towards the other two but State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb declined to confirm reports that it had already passed the Suez Canal and entered the Mediterranean. Commenting on the administration's warlike preparations, Senator Thomas Eagleton said all indications were the United States was going to strike. It was anybody's guess how it could all end, he added.

Contingency Plans Cited

LD121433 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Aleksandr Druzhinin Commentary]

[Text] The situation in the Mediterranean countinues to give cause for concern, as the United States has once again sent its 6th Fleet, Coral Sea and America aircraft carriers to the Gulf of Sidra.

Washington makes no secret of having a number of contingency plans for attack against Libya. According to news sources, it's a matter of which will okayed by the White House rather than of when to attack. More on this from our commentator Aleksandr Druzhinin:

With no end of American naval vessels off the Libyan coast it's clear that America will continue daring Libya, regardless of the cost. It's catching at every pretext, however absurd, to accuse Libya of involvement in international terrorism. At Washington news conferences the Libyan leader, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, is spoken of in far from diplomatic terms. The United States clearly pursues two objectives: It wants above all to topple the Libyan Government. According to the American press the White House has already okayed appropriate steps. The idea is to teach independent Arab nations a lesson and to try and solve the Middle East problem the American way. This would help the United States to dominate a vital part of the Mediterranean. But there's certainly much more to the United States' anti-Libyan campaign.

Washington is craving for a President that would help it to dictate to a foreign country in disregard of public opinion and the norms of international conduct. That's why the situation near the Libyan coast has caused so much international concern. It shows that Washington is liable to act from a position of strength and asks questions later, and one can imagine the consequences.

U.S. 'Armada' Heading for Libya

LD122352 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Report from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Two U.S. Navy aircraft carriers are setting off for the western section of the Mediterranean in expectation of an order from Washington concerning new military actions against Libya. The aircraft carriers Coral Sea and America, and a group of accompanying ships, are already near the island of Sardinia. An armada consisting of more than 20 U.S. ships is heading for the Libyan Coast. [Video shows aircraft carrier at sea; aircraft taking off from it]

U.S. Nearing Decision

LD121736 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] The American ABC television network has said that two United States aircraft carriers, the Coral Sea and the America, with an escort are already on their way towards the Libyan shores. The chief of the White House Staff, Donald Regan, has made a statement to the effect that the administration is nearing a final decision in favor of an attack. The United States actions have caused extreme concern even among its closest allies. Ninety-nine percent of the phone calls and letters to the United States Embassies in Western Europe these days reflect the West Europeans' strongly negative attitude toward armed actions against Libya.

U.S. Resorting to 'Violence'

LD122152 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1701 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Leonid Rassadin report from Cairo]

[Text] Hands off Libya: - This demand by Arab states from the Persian Gulf to the Atlantic Ocean is assuming special significance today.

The United States again is threatening sovereign Libya with an aggression. In this connection, Arab countries, irrespective of their political orientation, just as a month ago, are demonstrating their solidarity with the Libyan people. Egypt's stance is particularly revealing: Egypt does not even have diplomatic relations with Libya. The Cairo EGYPTIAN MAIL is warning the United States against conducting new armed actions against Libya.

According to news agency reports, an enormous U.S. naval armada has already been concentrated in the south Mediterranean, close to the Libyan shore. Three strike groups of the U.S. Mediterranean 6th Fleet are headed by the aircraft carriers Coral Sea and America. They are essentially military bases on ships, carrying approximately 150 aircraft, including fighter bombers. The U.S. military, Tripoli radio said today, is clearly preparing to making another priate sally against the Libyan Jamahiriyah in the nearest possible future. Resorting to the practice of violence and terror in respect to independent states of Africa, Asia, and Latin America, the United States is primarily aspiring to impose her dictate on them. The Libyan people, Tripoli radio stresses, are full of determination to defend the independence and sovereignty of the motherland.

'Further Provocations' Planned

LD131336 Moscow TASS in English 1306 GMT 13 Apr 86

["USA Preparing Further Provocations Against Libya" -- TASS item identifier]

[Text] Washington 13 April TASS -- The United States continues busily preparing for further provocations agaisnt Libya. According to press reports, two U.S. aircraft-carriers groups have already taken up forming-up positions in the Mediterranean and are waiting for Washington orders on the further course of action.

The naval armada, including 27 warships led by the aircraft-carriers Coral Sea and America, is about 200 miles from the Libyan coast. The newspaper NEWSDAY said that the United States had already made the decision to strike at Libya and that one reason why President Reagan had not yet ordered the blow was the lack of support from U.S. allies in Western Europe.

The White House has sent U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Vernon Walters on an urgent tour of West European capitals to try and rally this support. Walters, who met with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher yesterday, will also hold talks with the leaders of West Germany, France and Italy in the next few days. Washington's emissary, papers reported, will be pressing the West European governments to give backing to U.S. military and other actions against Libya.

Rozanne Ridgway, U.S. assistant secretary of state for European and Canadian affairs, will also go to Western Europe next week. UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL said, however, that in Western Europe they were uneasy about increased U.S.-Libyan tension. NBC television reproted that West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl had warned the United States against attacking Libya. It noted that Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi had also spoken out against military action against that country and that there was opposition to such action also in France.

Britain is the only U.S. ally that appears to be gravitating toward backing Washington's posture. The British SUNDAY TIMES said that after her talks with Walters Thatcher "is understood to be ready to support" U.S. military action against Libya.

Another British newspaper, the NEWS OF THE WORLD, said Thatcher was eager to help the Americans and did not rule out her consent to the use of British-based U.S. aircraft to deliver a blow to Libya. THE SUNDAY TIMES reported the arrival in Britain of an extra ten mid-air refuelling planes. The KC-10 tankers, it said, would enable up the F-111 bombers to make a return flight to Libya if it was decided to use them to attack it. Quoting reports from London, NBC Television said Britain would also make available to the United States its air fields on Cyprus.

New York April 13 TASS -- The U.N. Security Council has met the Maltese Government's request and resumed its discussion of the explosive situation in the Mediterranean resulting from continued U.S. muscle-flexing there. Malta's representative Savior Borg sponsored a draft resolution expressing deep anxiety over the massive naval buildup in the central Mediterranean in preparation for an armed attack on Libya. The draft demands refraining from any further action that could lead to the use of armed forces.

'No Evidence' of Libyan Terrorism

LD131745 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 13 Apr 86

[Report from the "International Panorama" program presented by Boris Kalyagin]

[Text] Our special correspondent Leonid Rassadin was in Libya at the beginning of this week. Over recent days, however, the clouds have gathered even more darkly over the Southern Mediterranean. Threats of a military attack on Libya are once again resounding from the ocean. [video shows aicraft carriers at sea] Washington ordered its two naval task forces to return to the Libyan shores: they comprise 20 warships headed by the aircraft carriers Coral Sea and America. The head of the White House himself assumed the role of sharpshooter in the latest campaign. The U.S. President came out with crude insults against Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the sovereign state -- an almost unprecendented instance in international practice.

The United States made use of two tragic events as an excuse for the latest escalation of hostility: the bomb explosion on board a TWA aircraft,[video shows TWA aircraft with blown-out side] resulting in the deaths of four Americans, and the recent explosion at a West Berlin nightclub discotheque, frequented by U.S. servicemen. [video shows outside of nightclub] One American soldier was killed there and 64 were injured.

The United States is trying to pin these terrorist actions on Libya, even though the leader of the Libyan Republic has stressed that his country has had nothing to do with them. The United States has absolutely no evidence of Tripoli's involvement in the incidents that occurred. Washington officials see Libyan agents everywhere: They allege that the Libyans have 35 U.S. sites in Europe and the Near East under surveillance. Even the Americans themselves take a skeptical view of this. Thus, THE NEW YORK TIMES observer Wicker stresses: The terrorist attacks that have been committed are not the work of some sinister madman or the result of any single group. They come from the profoundly deep-seated grudges of people who have at their disposal very few -- if any -- means of fighting against their mighty opponents. In the southern Mediterranean, Wicker goes on, these grudges are evoked by Israel's policies, by the fate of the Palestinians and by the conviction that the United States bears the chief responsibility for all the evils in the modern world.

As for Libya, this country's independent course has long given rise to ire on the part of the American Administration.

Alexander Haig, former U.S. secretary of state, recalls in his memoirs: Libya was one of the most pressing issues on the agenda of the very first session of the U.S. National Security Council chaired by Reagan, which was held on 21 January 1981. Terrorism was not yet under discussion, but even at that time the United States was already making plans for overthrowing the Al-Qadhdhafi government.

'New Military Threat' from U.S.

LD132140 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 13 Apr 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast; by unidentified correspondent]

[Excerpts] The escalation of interference by the United States in the affairs of the independent states of Asia, Africa, and Latin America is arousing the concern of the world public.

The United States conducts its interference under the cover of the so-called doctrine of neogolobalism. To subject the whole world to American interests is the aim of the neoglobalists. Under the pretext of protecting democracy and freedom, but actually to assert its domination, the United States has in fact declared a crusade against the democratic governments and developing countries. To punish them it puts together and arms counterrevolutionary gangs, and puts pressure on governments it does not like, and threatens, and sometimes carries out, military intervention. Libya just had to free itself from dependence on America and to eliminate U.S. military bases on its territory for it to become the object of the policy of neoglobalism.

Worrying reports have appeared again in the Arab papers. These concern the obviously suspicious movements of ships of the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean basin. In this connection, Arab observers do not rule out that the U.S. military is preparing for yet another aggressive act against sovereign Libya. Let us recall that in March, U.S. aircraft and ships already struck criminal blows against a number of targets in Libya. And now here is a new military threat from the United States.

I have just returned from a trip to Libya. And I must say that the United States did not manage to frighten the Libyan people. We also saw how, at this difficult time for the country, Libyans were planting flowers in the center of Tripoli. This is also highly symbolic. The Libyan people want peace. They threaten no one. And in this difficult situation, they are ready to defend the independence and sovereignty of their motherland.

Whitehead Remarks Cited

LD140824 Moscow TASS in English 0805 GMT 14 Apr 86

["U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Utters Threats to Libya" -- TASS headline]

[Text] New York April 14 TASS -- The purpose of the Reagan administration's campaign of blackmail and military threats against Libya is to make the leadership of that independent Arab country to forgo its independent foreign policy which is aimed at combatting imperialism's and Zionism's intrigues in the Middle East. This has been virtually confirmed in a CBS T.V. interview by John C. Whitehead, U.S. deputy secretary of state. He stated straightforwardly that Washington's objective is "to get Al-Qadhdhafi to change his conduct" and to reconsider his political course.

FRG-Based Missiles Linked

LD141053 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0935 GMT 14 Apr 86

[TASS commentator Lev Aksenov: "On the Siting of Cruise Missiles in the FRG: What Are They Boasting About in Bonn?"]

[Text] Moscow, 14 Apr (TASS) -- The first squadron of new U.S. cruise missiles, which recently began to be sited in the FRG, has become operational. According to a report in the bulletin PARLAMENTARISCH-POLITISCHER PRESSEDIENST, this conclusion follows from a reply by the FRG Government to an inquiry by the group of "Greens" in the Bundestag. The threat emanating from FRG territory both for Europe and the world at large has thus substantially increased. In addition to the 108 "Pershing 2's" already deployed here the countries of the old world and neighboring regions are now threatened with "winged death" too.

It is worth noting that such a step by the U.S. military command has coincided with a sharp intensification in the situation in the Mediterranean where Washington is unleashing the latest most dangerous anti-Libyan campaign. To all intents, the cruise missiles are called upon in these tense days to strengthen the threat to the Libyan Jamahariyah created by the air power on Coral Sea and America and by other naval vessels in the U.S. naval force.

In this context, it is a legitimate question to ask what the leaders of the FRG were counting on when they placed the territory of their country under U.S. missiles. After all, it is no secret that the U.S. military-political leadership "in extreme circumstances" might not request their allies' agreement to use nuclear missiles. Taking into account the adventurist military policy of official Washington, it is perfectly possible that the FRG will be drawn into a confrontation not only without its agreement but even without the knowledge of its leadership. And yet there are those in Bonn who to this very day boast that the schedule for siting the missiles is being kept "strictly punctually...."

Korniyenko, Akhromeyev Comment

AU141103 Paris AFP in English 1049 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow, April 14 (AFP) -- Georgiy Korniyenko, Soviet first deputy foreign minister, told a press conference here on Monday that the Soviet Union was "in contact" with Washington over preventing U.S. military action against Libya. Mr Korniyenko said that "the main thing is not to allow a U.S. attack against Libya." He added that: "For this reason the Soviet Union was doing what was expected of it" by being in contact with Washington, but he gave no further details.

According to rumours in Western diplomatic circles, the Kremlin has already used its "hot line" with the White House over the U.S.-Libyan crises in the Mediterranean.

Mr Korniyenko, asked what was likely to be the Soviet reaction to a U.S. attack, replied "to talk of what the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact members would do is counterproductive."

Marshal Sergey Akhromeyev, chief-of-staff of the Red Army, told the press conference that he was "worried" over the situation of Soviet military advisers in Libya in the event of an American "aggression" against it.

He did not answer a question about possible Soviet deaths last month when U.S. planes attacked SAM-5 missile batteries at the Libyan base of Surt. "The Soviet Union is aiding Libya and it has military experts stationed there carrying out strictly technical duties like the upkeep of arms and their combat readiness, as well as training Libyan soldiers," the marshal said. "If there is an attack and raids are made on targets where there are Libyan citizens and Soviets, then obviously the Soviets are running the same risk as the Libyans."

REAGAN, NAKASONE BEGIN FIRST ROUND OF TALKS

LD140813 Moscow TASS in English 0727 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] Washington April 14 TASS -- The first round of talks between Ronald Reagan and Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone of Japan who had arrived in the United States for a visit was held at the U.S. President's country residence at Camp David on Sunday. One of the main items on the agenda of the talks is the question of drawing Japan into the "star wars" program. Washington does not conceal a desire to make use of Japan's newest technological achievements in the creation of space weapons. However, Nakasone, who cannot but reckon with the negative reaction by broad sections of the Japanese public to the U.S. space militarization plans, declined to give any official pledge concerning Japan's participation in the realization of the notorious "Strategic Defense Initiative". According to a White House spokesman, the Japanese premier only promised that Tokyo would cautiously continue to study the question.

Much attention during the talks is also being given to acute trade-and-economic contradictions between the two countries. They have been brought on, first of all, by the U.S. growing deficit in trade with Japan. The deficit ran at about 50,000 million dollars last year.

SHULTZ, DOBRYNIN HOLD TALKS, ATTEND DINNER

PM140931 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Apr 86 First Edition p 4

["Latest Meeting -- TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, 12 Apr (TASS) -- The latest meeting between Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz took place here [11 April]. During the meeting discussions of Soviet-American relations were continued.

On the same day the leadership of the Senate of the U.S. Congress gave a dinner in connection with the end of A. Dobrynin's term of office as USSR ambassador in the United States and his leaving Washington for the homeland. During the dinner there was an exchange of views on questions concerning relations between the USSR and the United States.

JAPAN, USSR CONCLUDE FISHERY AGREEMENT 11 APR

TASS Reports Talks End

LD111733 Moscow TASS in English 1721 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 11 TASS -- Conversations between USSR Minister of Fisheries Vladimir Kamentsev and Japan's minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, Tsutomu Hata, ended here today. The Japanese minister paid a working visit to Moscow. The ministers have outlined the ways of achieving arrangements at the second session of the bilateral commission on fisheries, discussed the prospects for the development of Soviet-Japanese cooperation in this area.

The delegation to the session of the commission set up under the inter-governmental agreement of December 7, 1984, have now embarked on practical implementation of arrangements reached by the ministers. The commission is discussing the conditions for Soviet and Japanese fishing operations in the 200-mile economic zones of of the USSR and Japan in the current year.

KYODO Cites Agreement

OW120031 Tokyo KYODO in English 0004 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow, April 11 KYODO -- Japan and the Soviet Union Friday ended prolonged bilateral fishery negotiations with Japan agreeing to a sharp cut in this year's fish catch quota in the Soviet 200-mile fishery zone.

The agreement, reached between Tsutomu Hata, Japanese Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and Soviet Fisheries Minister Vladimir Kamentsev, also places extremely severe restrictions on Japanese fishing operations in other fields, such as a total ban on bottom gill net fishing in the Soviet fishery zone.

The Hata-Kamentsev agreement sets this year's Japanese and Soviet catch quotas in each other's 200-mile zones at 150,000 tons each. The figure is only one-fourth of last year's 600,000-ton quotas.

The agreement capped hard negotiations that began between the two countries last December 23, based on a Japanese-Soviet fishery agreement concluded early in 1985. The talks were suspended twice as the Soviet side took an extremely touch attitude regarding Japanese fishing operations in its waters. As a result of this, Japanese fishing boats have been unable to enter Soviet waters for over three months.

In order to break the deadlock in the negotiations, Hata arrived in Moscow Tuesday for top-level talks with Kamentsev. The two ministers met three times after Hata's arrival and the Japanese minister made a "political" decision to accept virtually all the Soviet proposals from the standpoint that further prolongation of the negotiations would badly hurt Japanese fishermen, Japanese sources said.

UPCOMING NAKASONE VISIT TO U.S. ANALYZED

Biryukov Reports

LD111953 Moscow TASS in English 1911 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 11 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone is about to pay a visit to Washington.

He has said that in addition to trade and economic questions, he is going to discuss in the American capital problems of the international situation. Getting ready to counter possible attacks on Japan's foreign trade policy, Nakasone plans to offer his partners a package of "new radical measures" prepared by Tokyo with a view to redressing the tilt in Japanese-American trade that has been in evidence for a few years now: For instance, last year the United States ran up a deficit of 50 billion dollars in trade with Japan.

Judging by the Japanese press, the premier is going to discuss from Washington's positions problems of disarmament and Soviet-American relations and to reiterate "the solidarity of the West" on a number of points. Lastly, he plans to demonstrate Tokyo's readiness to increase its contribution to the "strategic aid" to Haiti and a number of other pro-American regimes, on which Washington insists.

It is not yet clear what position the prime minister will take on the question in which the White House is now displaying special interest, on Japan's participation in the "star wars" program. The newspaper MAINICHI recalls in this context that just 15 months previously the Japanese premier stated his "understanding" of SDI. However, the newspaper says, the question of Japan's participation in SDI has not yet been settled and is likely to be raised by Reagan at the meeting in Camp David.

The prime minister himself, at first sight, is cautious. He has already said that he will "reserve" Japan's position at his meeting with the U.S. President. Tokyo's practical deeds, however, testify to a very different thing, to active preparations for the involvement of Japan in the U.S. program when the domestic political situation is right. It is reported, for instance, that the Japanese Foreign Ministry has already formulated a positive approach to Japan's participation in "research" under SDI. Moreover, the "need" for Japan to participate in that program is stated.

What is the justification of the Foreign Ministry officials for such an approach? Their reasoning is that SDI means a transition to "a safer deterrence on the basis of defensive weapons." They claim that the weapons developed under SDI "are drastically different from the existing nuclear and other armaments," that "they are not aimed at inflicting grave damage on the peoples and territories of other countries, nor are they weapons of mass destruction." The Japanese Foreign Ministry draws the conclusion that sounds amazing for the country which once fell victim to atomic bombings: "If the point in case were offensive weapons, it would be better to improve the existing nuclear armaments."

But the latest nuclear tests in Nevada, which outraged the whole world, just show that the United States, working on its "star wars weapons," is simultaneously forging new, more formidable warheads for intercontinental ballistic missiles: MX, Trident-2 ballistic missiles for submarines, etc. Moreover, Washington says that it is not going to stop that nuclear marathon.

As for the damage that the Japanese Foreign Ministry is trying to calculate, they seem to have disregarded the warnings of authoritative experts that space strike weapons intended to intercept incoming missiles can be used to hit from space stationary targets on earth. Moreover, they have "overlooked" another important circumstance.

The SDI authors, as they are going ahead with their wild idea, proceed not from reality but from the delirious schemes of such figures as Edward Teller, the "father" of the hydrogen bomb, whose only dream is to bury the "evil empire."

But dreams and realities are very different things. What is the lesson of the recent Challenger tragedy, for example?

It tells us that any malfunction in any component of the space system could cause missiles deployed in space to start towards wrong targets, just where chance would take them. If such an error happens when SDI systems are already in place, a global nuclear war will break out within 10-15 minutes, killing all life on earth.

Developing SDI weapons and simultaneously modernizing nuclear armaments and adding new types to their arsenals, the U.S. Administration poses a threat not only to the USSR but to mankind as a whole. One cannot agree more with the sensible view of MAINICHI, which advises that the prime minister should not yield to Reagan's pressure and assume obligations which would link Japan to the "star wars" plans.

Legantsov Comments

LD131002 Moscow TASS in English 0933 GMT 13 Apr 86

[Text] Washington April 13 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vladislav Legantsov reports: Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone arrived here today on an official visit.

The official agenda of his talks with President Reagan, according to a White House announcement, provides for discussing bilateral problems and international issues of mutual interest in advance of the forthcoming summit of seven leading capitalist countries in Tokyo.

This will mean in effect, according to U.S. press reports, that Nakasone will come under hard pressure to make fresh unilateral concessions.

The U.S.A. TODAY newspaper believes that Ronald Reagan will try to get the Japanese premier to make an official commitment concerning his country's involvement in the "star wars" project.

It is an open secret that the Washington administration would like to have access to Japan's technological achievements, most notably in the field of radio electronics and laser facilities, hoping that these will be most helpful in the U.S. effort to develop space strike weapons.

The press takes the view that the U.S. President will also press Nakasone to agree to further increases in Japanese military spending and in the power of Japanese Armed Forces which Washington would like to take over a significant part of the policing functions currently performed in Asia by U.S. troops.

The talks will also deal with sharp trade and economic contradictions between the two countries.

Despite all its efforts, the U.S. Administration has proved unable to balance trade with Japan and last year the U.S. balance of payments deficit in trade with that country reached a shattering 50 billion dollars.

The Nakasone government has promised, under prodding from Washington, to take measures to help trim the deficit and even prepared recommendations about how this can be done.

But these recommendations, according to THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, are most vague.

FURTHER REPORTS ON BHUTTO'S RETURN TO PAKISTAN

Addresses Mass Rally

LD111434 Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] New York April 11 TASS -- The time has come to unite the ranks and overthrow the dictatorship, said Benazir Bhutto, leader of Pakistan People's Party (PPP), addressing a mass rally in Lahore Thursday. According to the ASSOCIATED PRESS news agency, several hundred thousand people gathered to greet the PPP leader who returned home from exile to head the movement against the government of Ziaul Haq.

Benazir Bhutto said that the PPP was determined to restore democratic rights and liberties in the country.

As the events in the Philippines and Haiti demonstrated, she emphasized, the present year is a bad year for the dictators.

More than 30 American flags were burnt down in the streets of Lahore Thursday in protest against U.S. military and economic aid to the Ziaul Haq regime.

Demands 'Transfer of Power'

LD120400 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2200 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Dmitriy Morozov commentary]

[Text] The prominent figure of the Pakistan People's Party, Benazir Bhutto, has returned to Pakistan from exile. The daughter of the former prime minister of Pakistan, who was executed by the present regime, was met in Lahore by about a million inhabitants. In her very first statement she demanded that General Ziaul Haq transfer power to the people. Only quite recently, some 4 years or so ago, the Pakistan military would not have tolerated such impudence. Here is what the Indian newspaper TRIBUNE said about the situation in the country in 1981: The masses are helpless and have grown accustomed to getting along with the regime. Journalists know what is not to be written about and jurists know what not to defend.

Now, speaking in Lahore, even Agha Murtaza Pooya, editor in chief of the newspaper THE MUSLIM, dared to criticize the ruling regime, justly pointing out that any changes in the government take place at the whim of foreign benefactors, and described the reliance of Islamabad on the United States as shameless.

The Central Committee of the Movement for Restoration of Democracy, which includes the Pakistan People's Party, has expressed serious concern with the current internal situation in Pakistan and pointed out the impermissibility of aid for the Afghan dushmans.

At mass meetings in Punjab, Sind, in the North-West Frontier Province, the Pakistani public has spoken out in favor of the Pashtun tribes and has demanded the democratization of public life and the holding of new elections. Normally there was one answer available from the ruling regime for such demands: police truncheons. Over the first 5 years of the government of Ziaul Haq, more than 100,000 people were in prisons; 30,000 received punishment in the form of beatings with sticks. For the time being, the Ziaul Haq regime is failing to remain true to tradition.

Over the past few years, the number of people dissatisfied with the regime has grown to such an extent that the government lacks the police to suppress protest demonstrations.

This explains the unexpected tractability of Ziaul Haq in having permitted Benazir Bhutto to return to the country. By way of this maneuver, the ruling regime is attempting to demonstrate to the world its striving toward democracy, and also to calm the situation. Incidentially, even in Pakistan, there are few people who believe in the sincerity of this striving.

AFGHAN REBELS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN DRUG TRADE

LD130312 Moscow World Service in English 1431 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Yuriy (Kirichati) commentary]

[Text] How do you think -- is there any connection between the shipments of American Stinger rockets to Pakistan and one of the strongest drugs, heroin? Don't say no. There is a connection and a direct one, too. I came to think of it when the United States attorney general, Edwin Meese, spoke on American television. Without any proof he tried to convince televiewers that Afghanistan was one of the main heroin-making countries. The fact that he had just returned from Pakistan was apparently supposed to make his words weightier. According to the official version, he stayed there solely to study drug traffic routes, but news analysts in Asia who commented on his visit said that if there was anything the official did study it was the needs and wants of terrorists, the situation in the camp of Afghan counterrevolution.

The places he has visited during the stay in Pakistan prove that. Among other Edwin Meese went to a border post in the Khyber Pass area which is used by counterrevolutionaries for crossing into Afghanistan. The United States attorney general also visited a camp of Afghan counterrevolutionaries near Peshawar. Of course, if he had time and inclination he could have also studied the drug traffic lanes in Pakistan, because, after all, he stayed in that country, not in Afghanistan. Undoubtedly, he would have collected ample material to this end because Pakistan ranks high in the world drug hierachy. The country owes this position first of all to Afghan counterrevolutionaries who have found shelter in the border areas of Pakistan. First, poppy growing was conducted there on a wide scale, then laboratories making heroin were built. According to THE NEW YORK TIMES there were about 20 such laboratories already in autumn, 1981. The question of marketing was also solved. The Pakistani weekly MARG thinks that heroin is smuggled through Port Karachi. It calls Karachi a heaven for drug smugglers. Narcotics are transported to the United States and Western Europe also with the help of the Pakistan International Airlines.

Now, does Washington know about all this? The opinion of THE WASHINGTON POST on the issue is unequivocal. The CIA and the American State Department are well informed about everything that concerns the production and marketing of drugs, this profitable business of Afghan counterrevolutionaries. Congressman Charles Rangel, who visited Pakistan in 1984, also confirmed the involvement of counterrevolutionaries in illegal drug trafficking. Why, then, doesn't Washington try to influence either the counterrevolutionaries or Islamabad that actually connives with the Afghan terrorists who make drugs? The United States has proclaimed Pakistan a frontline country and the main bridgehead of the undeclared war against Afghanistan. If the Pakistani authorities closed the camps of saboteurs and terrorists where the counterrevolutionaries are trained and expelled them from the Pakistani authorities [as heard] the war would soon stop. There's no need to say that the White House with its policy of fanning regional conflicts will not permit this.

Now a few words about the counterrevolutionaries themselves. The main reason why they are not forced to stop the production of narcotics is that the CIA does not want that. The money made by selling drugs is spent to hire assassins and terrorists and purchase arms, and this is a notable addition to American aid to various counterrevolutionaries. Many crimes committed in the Afghan soil have been paid with this money. Just think of the explosion at the Kabul polytechnical college, the shelling of a mosque at Herat and the shooting down of a civilian plane. By the way, foreign news agencies report that the plane had been shot down by an American Stinger rocket. So, as you see, the connection between the drugs produced by Afghan counterrevolutionaries and the supplies of the latest land-to-air Stinger rockets from the American military arsenal to them is direct. The more evident and cynical are the lies uttered by Edwin Meese on American television. Washington needed this to place the blame for its own complicity in the crime on others and justify at least in some way the expansion of the scale of the undeclared war against Afghanistan.

KABUL RADIO REPORTS 700 'BANDITS' KILLED

LD140720 Moscow TASS in English 0706 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul April 24 TASS -- As was reported by Radio Kabul, units of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan hit a strong strike on enemies of the April Revolution. They killed about 700 bandits and eliminated a big counterrevolutionary base not far from Khost, 40 kilometres from the frontier with Pakistan, in the course of an operation. 12 depots of arms and military equipment were destroyed, and a big quantity of weapons and ammunition was captured.

SITUATION IN KHYBER PASS REMAINS TENSE

LD121121 Moscow TASS in English 0920 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul April 12 TASS -- The situation in the Khyber Pass area remains tense.

Armed units of the Afridi tribe in recent days staged a number of attacks on Pakistani Army and police posts there.

BAKHTAR news agency reported that military motor vehicles carrying foreign instructors to saboteur training camps had been blown up on roads in several frontier districts.

Anger at the Ziaul Haq regime's policy is mounting in the free tribe zone. BAKHTAR reported a massive protest demonstration in the town of Quetta, which involved prominent public figures and clergymen demanding measures to democratize life in Pakistan.

KABUL PRESS CONFERENCE CITES 'SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY'

LD130320 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1448 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, 12 Apr (TASS) -- A press conference was held here, at which convincing proof was presented of the subversive activity of foreign intelligence agencies against the DRA. Spies of the CIA and of the Pakistan special services, the CID, stood before local and foreign journalists.

The aide of the Pakistan consul in the town of Qandahar, Mohammed Shah, who was caught red-handed by the security organs of the DRA while committing an illegal act, has confessed.

He stated that he had been recruited by the Pakistan secret service as long ago as 1971. On the territory of the DRA, M. Shah collected intelligence information of a military nature, and also about the situation in the settlement area of the Baluchi tribes.

Pakistani citizen Badur Khan, who was arrested by the security organs of the DRA in the Shinwar region, admitted to being an agent of the CIA. He had been recruited a few years ago by representatives of the CIA in Karachi, who promised him great monetary remuneration for carrying out espionage tasks. In the course of 3 months he underwent training in Karachi, and then operated there as an agent of the CIA.

The Afghan Sayd Zekriya was a member of the dushman bands, closely cooperating with the counterrevolutionary grouping "Jamiat-e Islami Afghanistan." He also underwent specialist training in Pakistan to collect secret information on the territory of the DRA.

Present at the press conference were participants of the second AAPSO conference on the new international information order.

DRA ARMY CHIEF VIEWS ROLE OF ARMED FORCES

LD140909 Moscow TASS in English 0850 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul April 14 TASS -- "The Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA), whose combat might grows stronger with every passing day, play an increasing role in the cause of the defense of the revolution and of its gains. The party and the Government of the DRA use every opportunity to strengthen the country's defense might and the fighting efficiency of the Afghan Army", Lieutenant General Mohammad Vasin Sadeqi, secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), chief of the Main Political Administration of the Afghan Army, has said in an interview with a TASS correspondent.

"The past year", he went on to say, "became to the Afghan people a year of new victories over the counterrevolutionaries against whom a number of powerful strikes were delivered in various provinces of the country. The situation in Afghanistan gradually comes back to normal. The revolutionary power is now in control of all the 29 provincial centres. The population of thousands of villages, who were earlier terrorised by the counterrevolutionaries, have begun to work peacefully".

"The process of normalizing the situation in Afghanistan", Mohammad Yasin Sadeqi pointed out, "would be much quicker were it not for the undeclared war which is being conducted by the U.S. imperialist forces and by the regional reactionaries. Virtually this war is turning from an undeclared into a declared one. A vivid confirmation of that is the provision of Afghan counterrevolutionary forces with Stinger missiles by the USA and by the direct military and financial aid which the United States gives to the killers and plunderers who try to stop the process of progressive economic and social transformations in the DRA. But despite imperialism's attempts to revive counterrevolution, the latter is doomed to complete and inrevocable destruction", emphasized the head of the main political administration of the Afghan army.

"The Soviet Union", Mohammad Yasin Sadeqi said, "which renders fraternal internationalist assistance to us, is a sincere and true friend of the DRA. We shall never forget what has been done for the Afghan people by the Soviet servicemen and by Soviet specialists who spare no effort and at times risk their lives helping us to develop the economy, and to uphold the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the republic".

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON WEINBERGER'S ASIAN TOUR

Termed 'Disappointing'

LD111251 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger has arrived in Australia on the last stage of his 2-week tour of Asia and the Pacific. On the eve of his arrival in Canberra, the Australian Government again stated that it rejects any participation in the U.S. star wars program. Here is our commentator Vladimir Pashko:

For the fifth time since he took office as defense secretary in 1981, Weinberger has toured Southeast Asia, but probably none of his trips there have been as disappointing as this one for the United States.

In South Korea, the Pentagon chief was able to see with his own eyes the instability of the regime supported by Washington. The United States will maintain its Armed Forces in South Korea for as long as necessary, the minister stated.

Despite all his efforts he failed to speed up Tokyo's joining the star wars program or to obtain official agreement to this. Taking into account the mood of the country and the coming parliamentary elections, Nakasone stated that he does not intend to respond to Washington's proposal even at the coming meeting with the U.S. President.

The results of Weinberger's visit to the Philippines also seem disappointing for the Americans. The new leadership of the country very precisely opposed the American military presence, without speaking of a buildup. Through his stay in Manila, rowdy anti-American demonstrations went on unabated. The participants there demanded the removal of the Pentagon bases from the country.

Weinberger was met by the same sort of demonstrations in Thailand. Bangkok did not risk agreeing to the construction of depots for the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces, which are opposed by certain circles of the Thai Armed Forces, along with a wide strata of the public. The Americans were only able to comfort themselves with agreement on the beginning of consultations on this. The trip by the head of the U.S. Defense Department is not yet over. At the moment he is holding talks with the Australians, and the main content according to reports from Canberra is the crisis in the ANZUS bloc, set up by the Americans some time ago. The crisis was caused by the prohibition by New Zealand against ships with nuclear weapons on board entering its waters. The target of this step is obvious. In the consciousness of people everywhere, a U.S. military presence is associated with danger. The people of Asia will never forget that they were used by the United States as guinea pigs, by testing atomic weapons on the Japanese and chemical weapons on the Vietnamese. Now Washington is trying to make the Asian countries participants in its adventurism against socialism. But this policy threatens all peoples, and recognition of this is quite obviously palpable for the U.S. defense secretary during his current tour of the countries of the region.

Rebuffed in Australia

LD131516 Moscow TASS in English 1434 GMT 13 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 13 TASS -- TASS commentator Vasiliy Kharkov writes: U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger's statement at the National Press Club in Canberra on Saturday, which crowned his visit to Australia and his ten-day tour of Asia and the Pacific, was an example of the slanderous rhetoric used by Washington administration officials to justify U.S. stepped-up military preparations in that vast region.

Remaining faithful to his habit, the Pentagon chief also in that speech made a big effort to scare Australians with a "growing Soviet military presence" in the Indian and Pacific Oceans. though he was not able to cite any proof to back up the charge.

When attending newsmen asked Weinberger how those claims of his could be squared with the Soviet Union's major peace initiatives, including those for Asian and Pacific security, he passed the questions over in silence.

A Canberra TV network summed up his statement as an effort to frighten Australia with a "Soviet threat".

Why did the U.S. emissary need, as they say, to cast a shadow on a clear day, by resorting to anti-Soviet slander?

The U.S. Administration continues its attempts to enlist Australia in the "star wars" project, although Canberra has officially declared its negative attitude to it.

Weinberger was told this once again during his latest visit but he went all out to try to lure private Australian firms into involvement with the "Strategic Defense Initiative" with promises of big rewards.

There is ever stiffer public opposition in Australia to U.S. military bases in that country. This protest movement has of late been joined by more and more people from also those circles which have so far been keeping out of the campaign against foreign bases.

This has been due also to concern that American bases could be used in "star wars". During his visit to Canberra Weinberger did not exclude this possibility.

The Pentagon is willing to extend the network of its military facilities in Australia. The newspaper AUSTRALIAN reported a document prepared in Washington on this score, which lists concrete locations for such installations to be set up in the event of "any complications" concerning the use of U.S. bases in the Philippines.

To draw attention from these militarist plans, the Pentagon chief did not found anything better than playing once again the already shipping record about a "Soviet threat".

USSR, AUSTRALIA BEGIN TRADE TALKS IN CANBERRA

LD110339 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1555 GMT 10 Apr 86

[Text] Canberra, 10 Apr (TASS) -- The sixth session of the joint Soviet-Australian commission on trade and economic cooperation opened here today. A Soviet delegation headed by USSR Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade N. Smelyakov is taking part in its work. The Australian side is headed by V. Fitzgerald, deputy minister of foreign trade.

Issues of developing trade-economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the USSR and Australia are being discussed at the session. In his speech, V. Fitzgerald emphasized that the Australian Government and the country's business circles manifest a great deal of interest in the further development of trade with the USSR on a long-term basis. He announced that a decision had been adopted to allow the opening of an Aeroflot office in Sydney.

REPORTAGE ON VERNON WALTERS EUROPEAN TOUR

Seeks Support for U.S. Libyan Policy

LD130300 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2125 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Washington, 13 Apr (TASS) -- In an attempt to make its West European allies support Washintton's adventurist anti-Libyan course, the Reagan administration has sent Vernon Walters, U.S. representative at the United Nations, on a trip to Western Europe. According to a State Department announcement, Walters is at present in Britain, where he has had a meeting with Prime Minister Thatcher as part of "continuing consultations on the terrorism threat." It is under cover of this false tenet that the administation is whipping up the situation regarding Libya.

U.S. Use of UK Bases Viewed

LD121722 Moscow TASS in English 1339 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] London April 12 TASS -- In the light of reports that the Reagan administration may use U.S. bombers based in British territory for an aggressive attack on Libya, Tam Dalyell, a deputy of the House of Commons from the Labour Party, has demanded an urgent convocation of Parliament's session. He stated, in particular, that at that extraordinary session the Margaret Thatcher government should state what measures it is going to do about a U.S. action at this critical period. The member of Parliament emphasized that Britain should firmly demand that the United States abandon the plans aimed at attacking Libya. British territory should in no way be used as a launch site for U.S. air raids. The question may now arise of how effective is the British Government's control over the territory of its own country.

Paris April 12 TASS -- U.S. military preparations directed against Libya are seriously worrying Western Europe, writes the French "LIBERATION". The newspaper points out that West European countries express concern over possible consequences of a U.S. military intervention.

Thatcher Allows Use

LD131223 Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 13 Apr 86

[Text] President Reagan has sent the United States delegate at the United Nations, Vernon Walters, to Western Europe to enlist support from the allies in NATO in the anti-Libyan campaign of the United States. In London, Vernon Walters had talks with the prime minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher. As the MAIL on Sunday reports, Mrs Thacher agreed to allow the use of British bases in its territory and also in Cyprus for the operation against Libya the United States is preparing. Yet the other West European countries express alarm over these preparations and refuse to introduce sanctions against Libya.

Meets With France's Chirac

LD140931 Moscow TASS in English 0917 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] Paris April 14 TASS -- Vernon Walters, the White House special emissary and U.S. Ambassador, to the U.N. has arrived in Paris.

Vernon Walters, who earlier visited Britain and West Germany, is jetting around West European capitals in a bid to enlist their suport for the anti-Libyan adventures of the Reagan administation.

The U.S. emissary has met France's Prime Minister Jacques Chirac and intends to be received by President Francois Mitterrand.

There have been no official reports on the results of the talks between Vernon and Chirac. However, according to the TF-1 television network, the head of the French Government has taken a cautious stance on the Libyan-American conflict and has called on Washington for its peaceful solution.

ZIMYANIN CONTINUES TALKS WITH FRG DELEGATION

LD112102 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1631 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow, 11 Apr (TASS) -- A group of deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet, headed by Mikhail Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, today continued conversations at the USSR Supreme Soviet with a delegation from the Disarmament and Arms Control Subcommission of the West German Bundestag, led by Egon Bahr, chairman of the subcommission. Taking part in the conversations from the Soviet side were the following: USSR Supreme Soviet deputies Yevgeniy Velikhov, Georgiy Zhikov, Yuriy Izrael, and other officials. From the West German side: Deputies of the Bundestag Guenter Vergeugen of the Social Democratic Party, Juergen Todenhoeffer of the Christian Democratic Union, Hans Huyn of the Christian Social Union, Helmut Schaeffer of the Free Democratic Party, and Torsten Lange of the "Greens" party.

The sides held a thorough exchange of opinions about topical international problems and questions of bilateral relations. Zimyanin stressed the importance of intensive political dialogue which would facilitate the solution of burning problems and the return of international relations to the channel of detente. Resolute actions by all nations aimed at ending the arms race, above all nuclear arms, and preventing its spread to space and reducing conventional arms and armed forces in Europe are needed now more than ever, he said.

The West German parliamentarians' attention was drawn to the historic significance of Mikhail Gorbachev's January statement which advanced a program for the total elimination of nuclear and chemical weapons by the beginning of the 3d millennium. The Soviet side made a principled assessment of the U.S. Government's refusal to stop nuclear testing and join the USSR's real and concrete efforts directed at ending the nuclear arms race and abolishing nuclear weapons. The Soviet Union, it was said, favors reducing the level of military confrontation in Europe and is prepared to cooperate on that issue with all countries on the continent, including the FRG.

It was stressed that by signing the secret agreements on West German involvement in the American program to devise space strike weapons, Bonn is assuming equal responsibility with the United States for undermining world security. Zimyanin said that the Soviet Union's principled position, oriented at mutually beneficial cooperation with the FRG on the basis of the Moscow Treaty and consideration for the two countries' interests, remains unchanged. The USSR is firmly committed to the preservation and multiplication of the experience accumulated in bilateral cooperation, he pointed out.

Bahr stressed the importance of the proposals set forth in Gorbachev's 15 January statement, directed at preserving peace on earth. The sides held a detailed and frank discussion on these issues, with both sides discussing their views. The meeting's participants came out in favor of devloping inter-parliamentary contacts. The West German parliamentarians left Moscow on the same day.

FOREIGN MINISTRY REAFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR LIBYA

LD111632 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1602 GMT 11 Apr 86

["Representative of the USSR Ministry for Foreign Affairs on the Aggressive Plans of the USA" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 11 Apr (TASS) -- The Soviet Union decisively condemns all manifestations of the so-called policy of neoglobalism, which threatens sovereign states and facilitates the creation of tension and the intensification of confrontation, stated Valeriy Sukhin, deputy head of the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Department, today at a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists, answering a question about the possibility of a new aggression by the United States against Libya.

Relations between the Soviet Union and Libya -- these are relations of friendship and cooperation in various fields, said the USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman. We have given and will give aid and support to the Libyan Jamahiriyah in its resistance against all aggressive intrigues.

JANA on Military Support

LD121943 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow, 12 Apr (JANA) -- The Soviet Union has reaffirmed its backing and military support for the Jamahiriyah in its confrontation with U.S. imperialism in the Mediterranean.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman denied today [as received] in Moscow reports propagated by Western Media to the effect that the Soviet Union adheres to noninterference in the military confrontation in the Mediterranean.

Moscow-Tripoli Airlift Reported

NC141045 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1028 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] Beirut, 14 Apr (MENA) -- Today's issue of the Lebanese paper AL-SHARG says that an airlift between Moscow and Tripoli has been established and Soviet submarines have returned to the Mediterranean.

The paper cites informed sources as saying that the Soviet Union is determined to fulfill its commitments to Libya and to supply it with all types of weapons necessary for its defense by airlift or by other means.

KATUSHEV HOLDS 'FRIENDLY' MEETING WITH LIBYA'S JALLUD

LD111420 Moscow TASS in English 1317 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli April 11 TASS -- 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the revolutionary leadership of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, has received K.F. Katushev, member of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR State Council for Foreign Economic Relations who is leading a Soviet Government delegation staying here.

At the meeting held in a friendly atmosphere the sides discussed questions connected with a further development of economic, scientific, technical, and trade cooperation between the Soviet Union and Libyan Jamahiriyah.

LIBYA BRIEFS SOCIALIST, ARAB ENVOYS ON 'U.S. THREATS'

PM141045 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Apr 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report under general headline "The United States -- Libya: Threat of New Aggression"]

[Text] Tripoli, 13 Apr -- The heads of socialist countries' diplomatic missions accredited in Libya were invited to the Libyan People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, where they were informed of the extremely dangerous development of the situation in the Mediterranean as a result of continuing U.S. threats. The JANA agency reports that during the meeting it was stressed that U.S. armed preparations have been completed and now the American military could at any moment commit aggression against the Libyan people, which responsible American figures and their NATO allies themselves confirm.

Ambassadors of Arab states were also invited to the Libyan People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and informed of the real threat of American aggression hanging over the Libyan people. At this meeting, according to an agency report, particular emphasis was laid on the necessity for all Arab countries to combine efforts and oppose American imperialism's impudent pretentions.

An official representative of M. al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, said that Libya is taking the necessary measures to repel the aggressive action now being prepared by the United States.

At the same time, the JANA agency circulated a report which, citing well-informed sources, indicates that the U.S. CIA is planning a series of sabotage actions in the near future in various regions of the world in order to find a pretext for committing aggression against the Libyan people by ascribing these actions to Libya.

TASS CITES AL-QADHDHAFI ON 'RUDE' U.S. THREATS

LD121617 Moscow TASS in English 1539 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli April 12 TASS -- The Libyan Jamahiriyah rejects the U.S. rude military threats which will not bully the Libyan people, stated Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Libyan revolution. In a statement to the JANA news agency he has emphasized that facilities in Libyan territory selected by U.S. aggressors for a strike are purely civilian ones.

JANA reported that the heads of diplomatic missions of NATO countries accredited in the Libyan Jamahiriyah were invited to the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison of Libya. They were told about the stand of some West European countries which politically and in a propagandist way connive at U.S. aggression and joined in the anti-Libyan campaign. The People's Bureau demanded that the ambassadors of NATO countries [provide the] necessary explanations on that score.

TASS CITES JANA COMMENTARY DENYING LINK TO FRG EXPLOSION

LD120926 Moscow TASS in English 0754 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli April 12 TASS -- The Libyan news agency JANA has issued a commentary in which it rejects any involvement of Libya in the explosion in the West Berlin discotheque.

Statements similar to the one made by Chancellor Helmut Kohl of the FRG who asserted that there were a lot of proofs of Libya's involvement, JANA points out, are fabricated for the purpose of preparing world public opinion for a direct U.S.-NATO aggression against Libya.

The FRG's stand expressed by its chancellor, the commentary goes on, indicates that West Germany and other NATO countries follow in the wake of the U.S. Administration which seeks to draw West European countries into the realisation of U.S. aggressive plans and to make them accomplices in an irresponsible venture.

ARAB LEAGUE PLEDGES SOLIDARITY WITH LIBYA

LD131850 Moscow TASS in English 1611 GMT 13 Apr 86

[Text] Tunis April 13 TASS -- A statement of the Arab League circulated here says that in the course of a month Libya has become for the second time a target of open threats coming from the U.S. which is violating international law and jeopardizing security in the Mediterranean region.

The statement emphasizes that the hostile campaign launched by the U.S. against Libya is based on irresponsible and groundless accusations to the effect that Libya is allegedly involved in the recent acts of terrorism in Western Europe. The Arab League voices solidarity of Arab nations with Libya in the face of the threats and aggressive actions directed against its security.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS OUTCOME OF SOVIET-CUBAN TALKS

PM121340 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In the Two Countries' Interests"]

[Text] Havana, 11 Apr -- The 17th meeting of the Soviet-Cuban intergovernmental commission on economic and scientific-technical cooperation has been held here. The Soviet delegation was headed by I.V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and the Cuban delegation by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, deputy chairman of the Republic's Council of State and Council of Ministers.

During the meeting, the results of Soviet-Cuban economic and scientific-technical cooperation in the last 5-year plan were examined and its prospects for the coming last 5-year plan were examined and its prospects for the coming 5-year period (1986-1990) discussed. The meeting participants analyzed progress in the construction of the Juragua nuclear power station, the conduct of geological prospecting and oilfield development work, and questions connected with the assimilation of capacities at textile enterprises constructed with USSR technical assistance. Attention was also given to questions of further expanding trade turnover between the two countries and of making provision for the shipment of external trade freight.

The participants discussed trends in scientific-technical cooperation for the new 5-year plan in light of the long-term program for the development of economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the USSR and the Republic of Cuba for the period until 2000 and the CEMA countries' comprehensive program for scientific-technical progress until the year 2000. The commission's work took place in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

A protocol was signed on the outcome of the work. Simultaneously a protocol on the results of the coordination of the USSR and Cuban Republic state plans for 1986-1990, an agreement on trade turnover and payments between the USSR and the Republic of Cuba scientific-technical cooperation for 1986-1990 were signed. The documents were signed by I.V. Arkhipov for the Soviet side and C.R. Rodriguez for the Cuban side. The signing ceremony was attended by Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Republic's Council of State and Council of Ministers, and also by A.S. Kapto, USSR ambassador to the Republic of Cuba.

A conversation was held between F. Castro and I.V. Arkhipov, which took place in the warm, fraternal atmosphere characteristic of relations between the two countries. The Soviet delegation left for home the same day. It was seen off at Jose Marti International Airport by F. Castro, C.R. Rodriguez, and other officials.

By decision of the Republic of Cuba State Council, I.V. Arkhipov has been awarded the Order of Carlos Manuel de Cespedes for his great contribution to socialist building in the USSR and to the development and consolidation of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Cuba. This high award was presented to him by F. Castro.

SOVIET SCIENTIST GIVEN ASYLUM IN U.S. EMBASSY IN BRAZIL

PY110106 Paris AFP in Spanish 0033 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 11 Apr (AFP) -- Soviet scientist Vladimir Ivanovitch Halturin, who disappeared in Brazil in March, was granted asylum in the U.S. Consulate in Belem, Para State, has already been sent to the United States, O GLOBO television reported tonight.

The information which is said to have been furnished by the U.S. Consulate in Belem, was neither confirmed nor denied by U.S. diplomats. The Itamaraty [Brazil Foreign Ministry] spokesman said this afternoon that the whereabouts of the Soviet scientist who disappeared in the port of Belem on 26 March, is not known. He added that the Soviet Embassy in Brasilia has reported the disappearance of Halturin, who was a member of the crew of a Soviet oceanographic vessel, to the Brazilian Government.

The general director of the Federal Police Department, Romeu Tuma, tonight in Brasilia confirmed the disappearance of Halturin, but said he had no information as to Halturin's whereabouts.

D'ESCOTO CITED ON RESULTS OF CONTADORA CONFERENCE

PM091458 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS dispatch: "Contadora Group Ministers Conference Ends"]

[Text] Panama, 8 Apr -- The participants in the conference of Contadora Group foreign ministers and the Support Group comprising representatives of five Central American states which has ended here expressed themselves in favor of the continuation of talks with the aim of achieving a comprehensive agreement on a peaceful settlement of the situation in Central America and against Washington's backing for counterrevolutionary forces and foreign interference in the region's affairs.

The final document entitled the "Panama Communique," signed by the Contadora Group and the Support Group ministers, points out that a political settlement of the Central American crisis is the only way of achieving mutual understanding between the region's countries which in turn would provide a solid basis for signing a final version of a document on peace and cooperation in Central America.

The "Panama Communique" urges the foreign ministers of the five Central American countries to attend the conference of the Contadora Group and the Support Group scheduled to be held in Panama on 6 June this year to finalize an "Act of Peace." The ministers of the five Central American countries are asked to open talks without delay on the provisions of this document on which a united stance has not yet been elaborated, in particular regarding arms reductions and the ending of military maneuvers.

The foreign ministers of the Contadora Group and the Support Group denounced foreign interference in the Central American conflict, which hampers the achievement of a political settlement of the situation in the region, contravenes the UN Charter, and is a gross violation of the norms of international law.

On White House instructions, the representatives of El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica adopted a pro-American stance at this conference. They opposed the stance of the Contadora Group and the Support Group on ways to achieve peace in the region. In an attempt to negate the results of the Panama conference, the ministers of these countries left the forum before the signing of the "Panama Communique."

Addressing journalists, Miguel d'Escoto, the Nicaraguan foreign minister, described the results of the conference as positive because the representatives of the Contadora Group and the Support Group reaffirmed their intention to continue the quest for a peaceful settlement of the situation in the region. He sharply denounced U.S. interference in Central American affairs and the U.S. interventionist course in respect to Nicaragua. Washington's militarist course, M. d'Escoto emphasized, is the main obstacle to achieving effective results at the talks on a political settlement of the conflict in the region. In order to achieve progress, he pointed out, it is essential that the United States stop financial and other aid to the counterrevolutionary gangs.